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NEW

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

How to paint AFV Club's 1:48 Tiger I

afv edition

Accurate Armour Jackal 1 - Angus Creighton's Sturer Emil - Trumpeter MAZ transporter - armour modelling techguides - and more...

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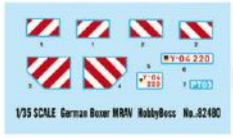
Dioramas you must build before you die...

News

BOXER TRICKS
1:35 BOXER MRAV

The Boxer is a modern, eight-wheeled MRAV (Multi Role Armoured Vehicle) and it's pretty big and butch. As well as their WW2 AFV line, Hobbyboss have been championing modern armoured vehicles in 1:35 kit-form lately with their incredible DANA kit (MiM-AFV 002) as well as other interesting and unusual subjects recently released. Their latest is the Boxer and it's a equally well done; tons of surface detail and a great fit-of-parts. We'll be featuring this kit in detail in a future issue of MiM-AFV, but for now, here are some preview shots.

● Hobbyboss 1:35 Boxer MRAV kit no.82480
www.creativemodels.co.uk



TAMIYA GO IDF
1:35 M1 SUPER SHERMAN

Tamiya's next 1:35 military kit (after the BT-42) will be the Israeli Defence Force M1 'Super' Sherman. The model features newly designed parts above the tracks, and comes with two figures for the turret hatches.

● Tamiya 1:35 M1 Super Sherman kit no.35322
www.hobbyco.net From good model shops soon

KROME SWEET KROME
BADGER KROME AIRBRUSH

Badger's new airbrush is the Renegade 'Krome' and as its name suggest, it has forsaken the macho gunmetal finish of the other Renegade models for a traditional bright chromium-plated finish. It feels very good in the hand and we'll be testing it on forthcoming MiM modelling projects.

● Badger Renegade Krome double-action airbrush
www.hobbyco.net

MINIART
1:35 EUROPEAN HORSE-CART

Perfect as an ancillary 'vehicle' in dioramas, MiniArt's new 'European Cart' (35553) is finely detailed and will paint/weather up very well. Injection moulded in grey polystyrene.

● MiniArt 1:35 European Cart kit no.35553
www.creativemodels.co.uk

NEWS JUST IN...

TAMIYA, JAPAN
1:35 BT-42 howitzer tank
hobbyco.net

ITALERI, ITALY
1:24 Land Rover 109 LWB
hobbyco.net

NEW WORLD MINIATURES
1:35 US Army Kettenkrad crew
1:35 IDF tank crewman
1:35 Modern British soldier
newworldminiatures.com

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ONE-SHOT WEATHERING

Ideas and materials to help you achieve complex weathering effects

This close-up photo of a Centurion AVRE's exhaust shroud, captured at the fabulous Cobbaton Combat Collection in Devon, UK (www.cobbatoncombat.co.uk) shows a textbook rust formation, caused chiefly by the heat that once radiated from the searing-hot exhaust box beneath it. The desert yellow paint has discoloured, blistered, then finally crumbled off in flaky spots where the steel shroud has energetically oxidised. Where rain has run down over the rust onto the remaining paint, distinct, top-to-bottom streaking has formed, giving the whole structure a vividly rusted look. It'll give your model a great look, but how to do it?

It's easiest to do this if the part to be treated is separated from the model, but not impossible if it has to be done in-situ. Basecoat the area to be 'rusted' with dark brown acrylic paint, such as Vallejo 312 Leather Belt with some 70950 Black (1) or Tamiya XF-10 Flat Brown (2) then seal with Hannants XAFF Flat Varnish (3). Once dry, moisten the part with tap water then sprinkle on salt granules, thickly where you want most of the exposed rust, lighter where the desert yellow paint is to remain. Allow this to dry naturally, then very lightly airbrush your chosen shade of desert yellow; Tamiya XF-57 Buff, for example (4). Once this is fully dry, rinse the part in tap water and the salt will dissolve, hopefully creating the pitted, crumbling paint effect. Once you're happy with the look, you can apply colour washes to deepen the texture and create the streaking; AK Interactive's 'Rust Streaks' pre-mixed enamel wash is ideal for this. As ever, experiment on scrap kit parts before you execute the technique on model. •

WHERE TO BUY

Tamiya Acrylics;
From good model shops everywhere
Vallejo Acrylics, AK Interactive;
www.creativemodels.co.uk
XAFF Flat Varnish;
www.hannants.co.uk

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605 Ger. Red Brown RAL 8012 Rotbraun RAL 8012	**606** Ger. Green Brown RAL 8000 Grün Braun RAL 8000	**607** Verde Bronce U.K. U.K. Bronze Green	**608** Verde Oliva U.S. U.S. Olive Drab	**609** Verde Ruso Russian Green

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THE 'FOUR AT WAR

A brief account of the ubiquitous Panzer IV tank

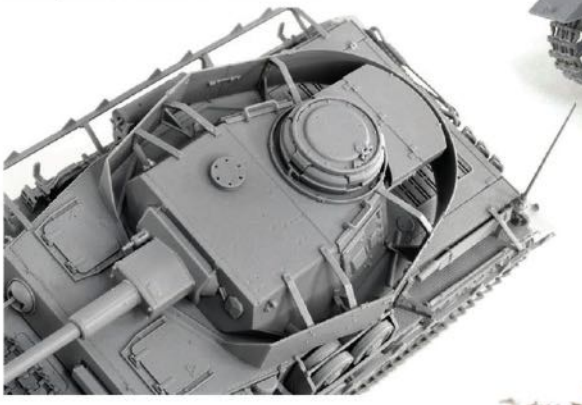
Dragon's next Panzer IV will be a late version , Germany 1945.

The Panzer IV was the Second World War's most widely manufactured and deployed tank and served on practically every front, from the Atlantic coast to the outskirts of Moscow, from its deployment to the very end of the conflict.

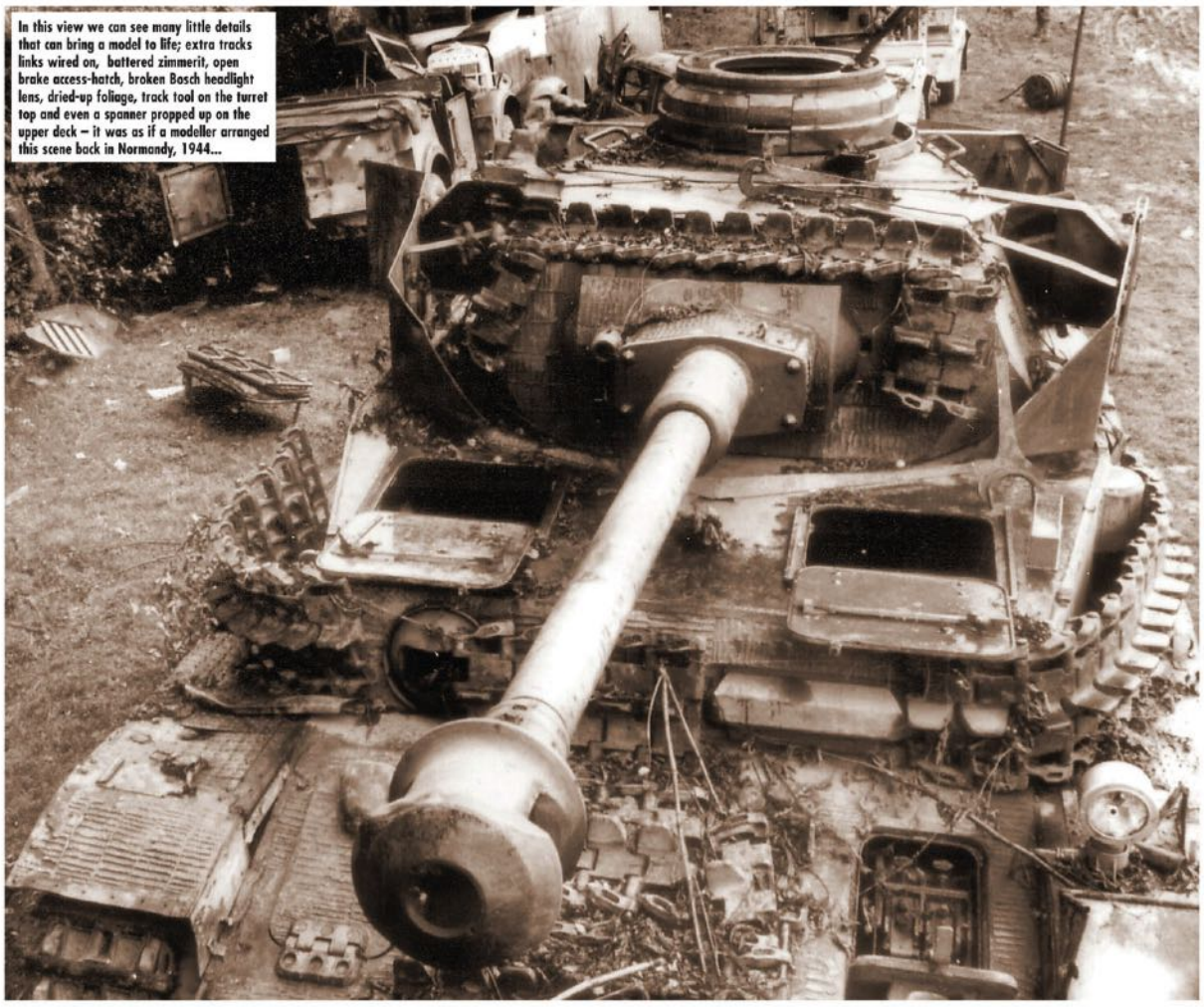
It went through many changes; hull, weaponry, fixtures and fittings all evolved to try to meet the requirements of manufacture and deployment. The hull and running gear also served in various configurations as the basis for many specialised vehicles such as the Wirbelwind, Ostwind and Möbelwagen anti-aircraft tanks, the Nashorn tank-destroyer, Hummel and Brummbär howitzers and the StuGIV assault gun and others.

It's a fascinating design and there have been many kits made of the type. Arguably the best 1:35 kits on current release are the new-generation productions by Dragon which feature some amazingly refined mouldings and authentic surface detail. You can see the recent PzIV auf.D up-gunned in the next AFV issue of MiM and we will be building the new Wirbelwind for a feature. •

Dragon's current 1:35 Panzer IV kits are arguably the best in the business.



More modelling inspiration in this view; single, battered schurzen plate, a crushed bucket on the rear panel, clumps of foliage and a distinctly bent radio antenna. These additions can make the difference between a competent but uninspiring model and a truly eye-catching piece of work.



In this view we can see many little details that can bring a model to life; extra tracks links wired on, battered zimmerit, open brake access-hatch, broken Bosch headlight lens, dried-up foliage, track tool on the turret top and even a spanner propped up on the upper deck – it was as if a modeller arranged this scene back in Normandy, 1944...

No, it's not a 1980s Verlinden diorama, it's a real photograph from Normandy in 1944. Note the open hatch in the turret schurzen and the dislodged schurzen on the turret's opposite side.

MAZ HYSTERIA

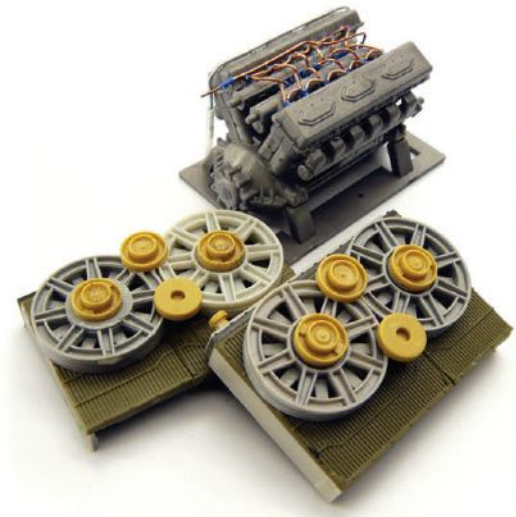
Zachary Sex builds Trumpeter's impressive MAZ 537 as a Serbian vehicle, complete with T-55 payload – and fellow modeller Dave Coyne gives it a lick of paint...

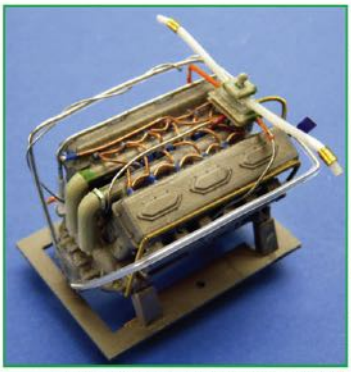
With the cessation of hostilities at the end of WWII most of Eastern Europe found itself in the steely grip of Stalin's Red Army and NKVD. Not so Yugoslavia, for while Belgrade had been entered by Russian tanks it was the Yugoslavian partisan army under Comrade Tito who saw off the German army including the Waffen SS Prinz Eugen and Handschar Divisions, Mussolini's Italians and the Croat Ustasha. It was Tito's intention to keep Yugoslavia independent and outside the Soviet Iron curtain that was now descending. To this end, Yugoslavia invested heavily in military equipment, ironically mostly Russian. However they also developed an indigenous arms industry producing licensed copies of the French Gazelle helicopter, various indigenous light APCs, light attack jet trainers and a range of Kalashnikov derivatives and sniper rifles.

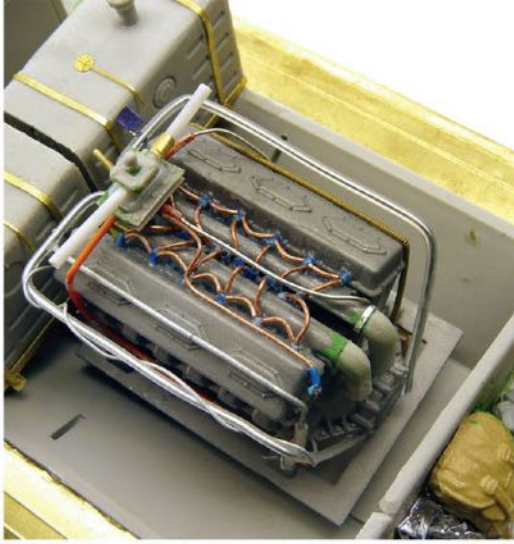
The death of Marshall Tito in the mid eighties combined with the demise of Communism throughout eastern Europe saw the then leader of Yugoslavia Slobodan Milosevic decide to play the Serbian national card in this ethnically diverse nation. This in turn led to what has become known as the Balkan conflict. While the Slovenes were the first ethnic group to seek to secede from Yugoslavia, in a short time they were joined by the Croats, Bosnians and later the Kosovars. However it was in Bosnia and Croatia that most of the fighting occurred with the lion's share of JNA equipment remaining in the hands of Serb and Bosnian Serb units. The main stay of these forces were older vehicles such as Russian T-34/85s, T-55s and M-84s. These vehicles needed to be ferried from flashpoint to flashpoint and it was in this role that the MAZ 537 came into its own.

MAZ IN 1:35 PLASTIC FORM

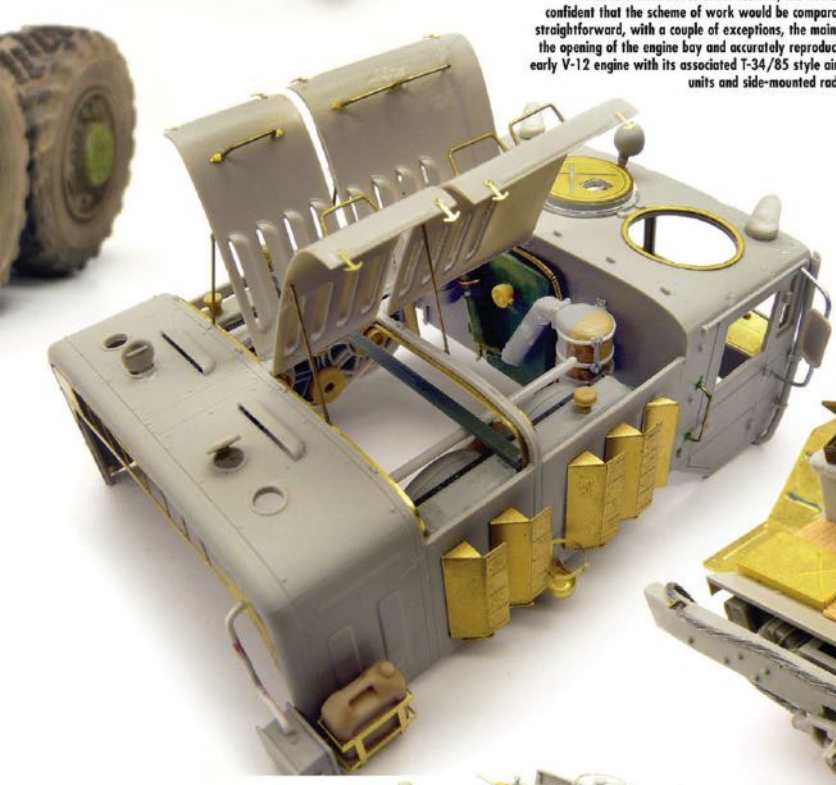
Trumpeter's MAZ-537 had been a while in coming but when it did it arrived in bus-like fashion in a group of three. The trio consisted of the early variant, the late variant and the cargo version. While I had already built a late, open-bonneted Afghan variant and a Croatian version it was a Serb variant I now wanted to build. I had been captivated by an image of a Serbian MAZ which had posted on the Missing Links website some time ago. The vehicle in question had an overall pale grey/green scheme, a sloped-back front bumper and a rather eye-catching dragon painted on the front of the cab with a Bosnian Serb heraldic shield painted on the driver's door. ➤

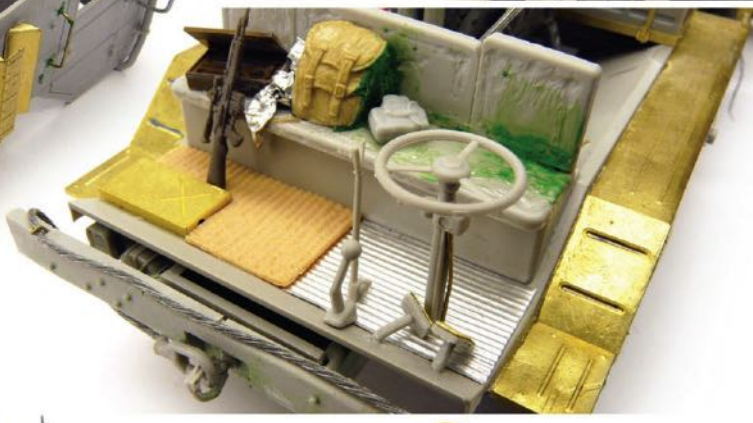






With two MAZ builds under his belt, the author was confident that the scheme of work would be comparatively straightforward, with a couple of exceptions, the main being the opening of the engine bay and accurately reproducing an early V-12 engine with its associated T-34/85 style air filter units and side-mounted radiators





At roughly €100 (£70) Trumpeter's 1:35 MAZ is excellent value for money, and even more so in the current recessionary climate. While it is a large kit, construction is relatively straightforward with three etched metal sheets provided as an alternative to the plastic parts thus giving the modeller a choice in the level of detail rendered

Small touches such as the scrap wood and oil drum bring a leviathan like the MAZ to life

The fifth wheel on any truck is a notoriously greasy part. Note the winch cable coiled around its base plate.

A Q-Tip was used to restore the worn rubber tyre treads, by applying dark grey paint over the dusty pigment finish

It also had two orange hazard beacons mounted on the cab roof.

The kit lends itself to being altered and added to using home-made parts due to its construction in a number of sub units, which allow for ease of handling when making alterations. This is particularly true of the engine bay section which has seen a number of adaptations and variants in real life over the years. It goes without saying that the MAZ has been widely exported throughout the Eastern Bloc and the third world, seeing service for over four decades. This allows the modeller a wide choice of livery, wear and tear and weathering.

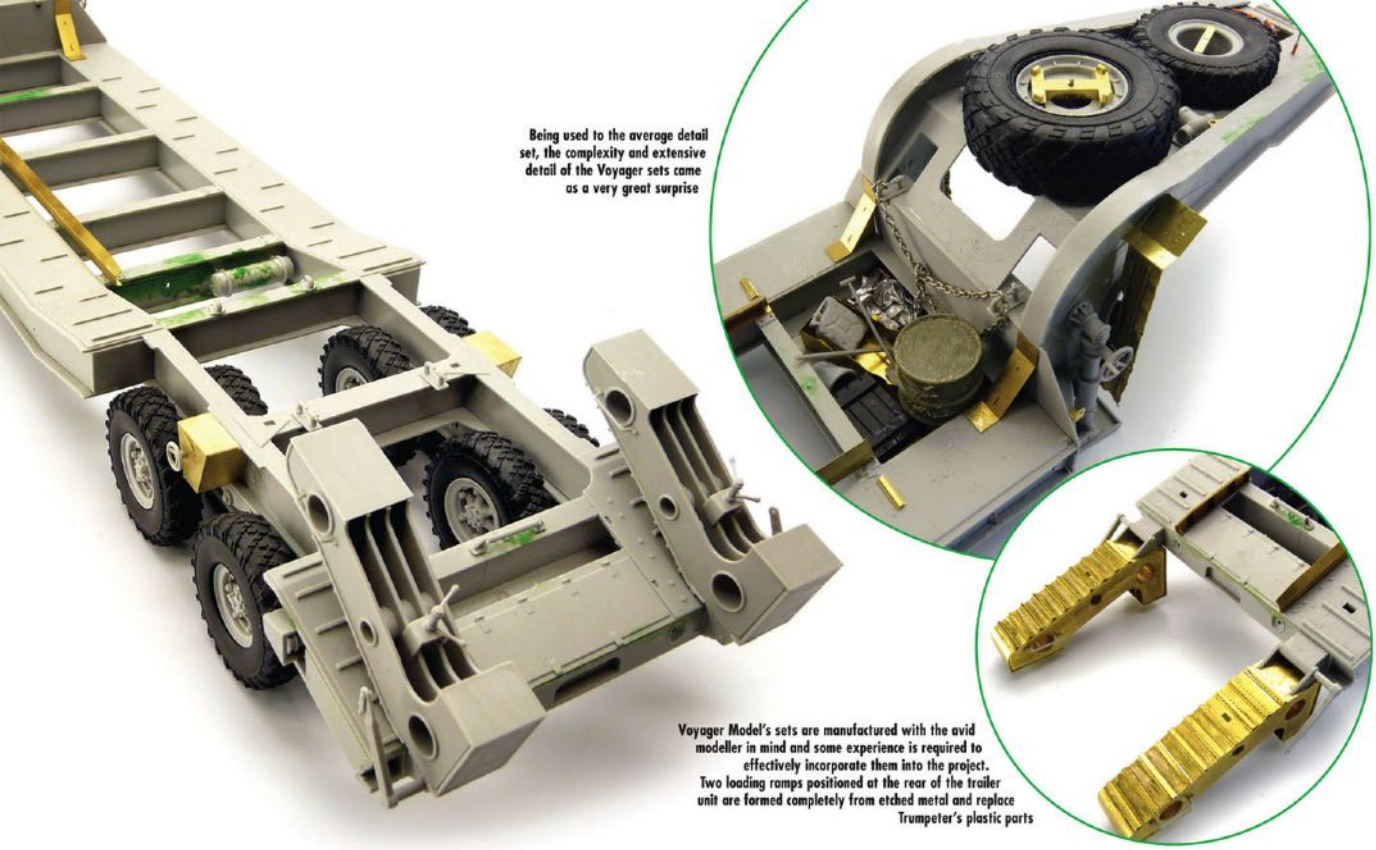
The load for the MAZ is a Serbian Army T-55; we'll take a look at its construction in a future issue

BUILDING THE KIT

The first step on my itinerary was assembling the trailer unit. This is a straightforward piece of work that makes a big dent in Trumpeter's large box of components and also allows you, when completed, to experiment with the various loads that may be relevant to your particular build. A small number of sink-marks around and below the gooseneck are easily filled. With the exception of some chains and a stowage area at the base of the gooseneck, Trumpeter provide you with all of the necessary elements for this construction.

Trumpeter's intermediate MAZ needs very little modification to be altered to the earlier rendition as used by the JLA; the mudguard area has a slightly different shape as it tapers to an angled point below the cab. This completed, I then proceeded to cut open the engine bay area as I wished to model an early variant MAZ V12 diesel engine complete with air filters and cooler units, topped off with a pair of gullwing doors.

Step one consisted of delicately cutting open the four engine bay covers. This was done with a surgical scalpel in order to keep the cutout sections for later use. To achieve the correct scale of thickness these cutouts then required sanding with various grades of paper starting with rough and finishing off with a very fine grade in order to achieve a paper-thin finish which maintains the scale of the project.



Being used to the average detail set, the complexity and extensive detail of the Voyager sets came as a very great surprise

Voyager Model's sets are manufactured with the avid modeller in mind and some experience is required to effectively incorporate them into the project. Two loading ramps positioned at the rear of the trailer unit are formed completely from etched metal and replace Trumpeter's plastic parts

Step two necessitated the acquisition of a Soviet D12 diesel engine. These are widely available in 1:35 in resin or injection-moulded plastic as they are commonly used in Soviet MBTs and more recently have become available through Trumpeter's release of a series of Chinese self propelled artillery pieces. As I have used a Trumpeter offering before and had more than one or two knocking around the house it seemed the logical choice. This engine however requires some small detail work such as adding the fuel injection lines to the top of the cylinder heads, achieved using stripped telephone cable wire.

Step three involved scratchbuilding the two large radiators for the water cooling system. These were made using sprue ID tags mesh patterned plastic and early Dragon Tiger II idler wheels which were modified to construct the fan wheels alongside four Tristar Panzer IV return rollers and a fan belt made of a thin strip of plastic yoghurt carton lid.

Step four consisted of detailing the bulkhead between the engine compartment and driver's cab. This wall has a number of fittings, metal tubing and wiring attached to it. However, the three main features are the two T-34/85 style air filters and a pair of compressed air bottles which are used to drive an engine turnover system used in ice-cold conditions where the normal electrical starter system may become inoperable.

With construction of the MAZ combo now complete, all that remained was to decide upon a suitable load for this Serbian workhorse. After much deliberation and ➤

"Trumpeter's MAZ-537 had been a while in coming but when it did it arrived in bus-like fashion in a group of three..."

having tested out M18 Hellcats, M36 Jacksons, T34s and even an M84 it was the appearance on www.militaryphotos.com of a T-55 dressed in an engaging set of black rubber aprons that finally decided it for me. In a future MiM-AFV article I shall examine this vehicle in more detail. And now, my modelling friend Dave Coyne will outline how he painted this rather large model combo...

INTO THE SPRAY BOOTH

Despite having collaborated with Zak on a number of previous MAZ projects I was still looking forward to seeing his latest take on this Russian workhorse. To my surprise he had hacked open the engine cowling while managing to sand down the louvres to a paper-thin gauge thus preserving the sense of scale. He also scratchbuilt the early version of the engine and components.

I began by giving it all a coat of primer which was a dark, chocolate-brown creating a base apparently used by the Dutch masters according to Mr. Sex, who fancies himself as a bit of an art historian. Having mixed a pale, grey-green colour found on JNA vehicles (a mixture of Humbrol matt 78 Green and Humbrol matt 24 Yellow with a dash of Humbrol matt 34 White in it) I began by spraying the trailer as after all this would be later covered in layers of grime and filth and served as a good test base before embarking on spraying the MAZ tractor unit. Being satisfied with the outcome I then applied the same colour to the tractor unit. Spraying the two pieces was made easier by the prior dismounting of the tyres, which thankfully are easily removable and can be sprayed separately with a black/grey mixture and then refitted later.

To differentiate the spare tyres from the fitted ones, a different style of weathering was employed

It's a weatherer's dream project! All types of dirt application can be performed on a model this size

The T-55 is full of character too, but's a story for another time...

CONCLUSION

Out of the three sets of MAZ trios that myself and David have worked on so far this has perhaps been the most challenging whether it be sanding those engine bay louvre doors to paper thin thickness, scratch building the early V-12 engine or the experimentation with the various paint schemes the whole process involved a lot of risk taking which tends to wrack the nerves. The addition of the Voyager detail set also added an awful lot of time to the construction, there were times during the process when it seemed the project might never reach completion. However in retrospect it was the accumulation of all these factors which made this particular project ultimately so gratifying. •

WHERE TO BUY?

Trumpeter kits are imported and distributed in the UK by Pocketbond Ltd. Widely available from good model shops.

ABOUT THE MODELLER

Name: Zack Sex

Age: 41

Lives: Dublin, Ireland

Modelling experience: Since I was nine – first model being Matchbox Wespe (1:76)

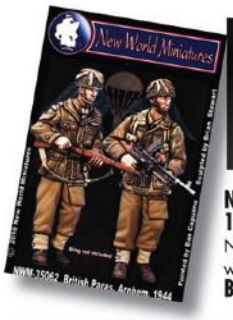
Favourite modelling subject: Eastern-Block inspired wackiness

Anything else: I enjoy working with Davy Coyne on modelling projects and Adam Wilder on casting ones, but playing rugby for Suttonions and hitting the bar afterwards is where I'm happiest!

MARCHING ORDERS

New figure sets for dioramas and to accompany armour models

TAMIYA, FROM JAPAN
1:35 GERMAN MILITARY POLICE (FIVE FIGURES, AND DOG)
This set will be useful for dioramas and vignettes, and appear very well sculpted.
WWII GERMAN FIELD MILITARY POLICE SET (35135)



NEW WORLD MINIATURES, FROM THE USA
1:35 BRITISH PARAS 1944 (TWO FIGURES)
NWM have come up with an excellent pair of WW2 era British Paras, with 'weapons at the ready poses', cast with extreme precision in resin.
BRITISH PARAS ARNHEM 1944 (NWM-35062)

ROYAL MODEL, FROM ITALY
1:35 ITALIAN ARMOURED CAR CREW (TWO FIGURES)
This pairing of marshal and lieutenant are extremely well posed and will fit perfectly on the turret of Italeri's 1:35 AB-41 armoured car. RM's castings are always perfect and the detail is sublime.
TENENTE E MARESCIALLO DEI CAVALLEGGERI DI LODI (619)

MINIART, FROM THE UKRAINE
1:35 US TANK CREW (FIVE FIGURES, AND DOG)
This is an action-packed set, featuring an ETO US tank crew firing their weaponry. Anyone up for a bocage diorama?
CLOSE COMBAT US TANK CREW (35135)

MINIART, FROM THE UKRAINE
1:35 GERMAN TANK CREW (FIVE FIGURES)
This five-man German tank crew will be ideal to man a Panzer IV in the post D-Day campaign and are nicely animated with great attention to detail. Based on a well-known wartime photo.
GERMAN TANK CREW NORMANDY 1944 (35132)

ROYAL MODEL, FROM ITALY
1:35 BRITISH INFANTRYMEN, SICILY (TWO FIGURES)
A superbly well observed pair here and ideal to place in a diorama, perhaps passing a knocked-out vehicle.
UK INFANTRY, SICILY 1945 (576)

ZVEZDA, FROM RUSSIA
1:35 VOLKSSTURM TEAM (FOUR FIGURES)
For a 'last days of Berlin' diorama, this injection moulded figure set is very well detailed, and comes with Panzerfaust, MP44, MP40 and KAR98 weapons.
VOLKSSTURM, BERLIN 1945 (3621)

ROYAL MODEL, FROM ITALY
1:35 ITALIAN SOLDIER, AFGHANISTAN 2008/9 (ONE FIGURE)
Right up to date here, this Italian soldier from the Alpine Division will be perfect to place by a Centauro or Ariete. Very finely cast.
TALIAN ALPINE SOLDIER 8TH REG. BRG. JULIA, AFGHANISTAN 2008/09 (603)

WHERE TO BUY?

Tamiya;
Widely available from good model shops

MiniArt;
www.creativemodels.co.uk

New World Miniatures;
www.newworldminiatures.com

Royal Model;
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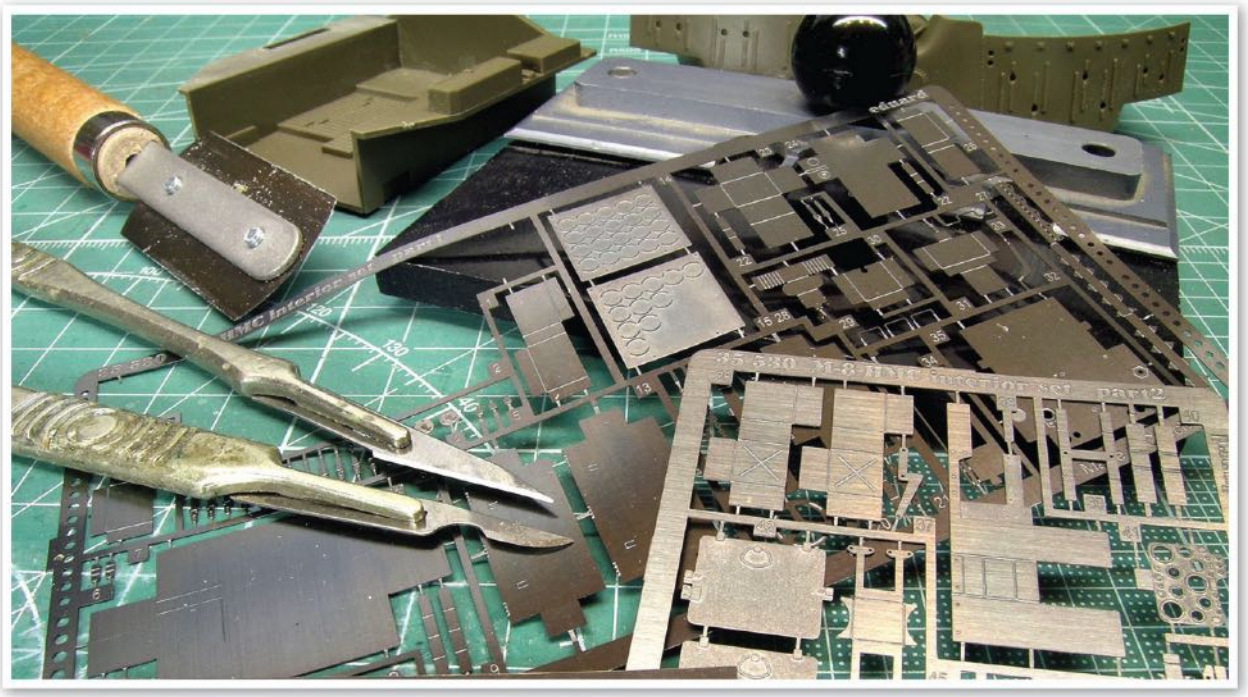


BASIC TRAINING PT.2

PREPARATION FOR PHOTO-ETCHED PARTS

The next stage of our M8 Howitzer Motor Carriage project continues with the preparations needed to accommodate Eduard's interior set...

In the second part of our regular MiM-AFV feature, we'll take a look at the preparations needed to install Eduard's excellent photo-etched sets, designed specifically for this kit. We will be using Eduard's 'M-8 HMC Interior Set for Tamiya kit' (35530) and later on, 'M-8 HMC Exterior Set for Tamiya kit' (35509). These are available from Creative Models at £8.50 and £11.50 respectively; www.creativemodels.co.uk •

TOOLS FOR THE JOB

In this stage of our model's construction, a pack of Swann-Morton No.15C and 11P blades will be invaluable. A razor saw will be needed to remove larger items and a small rectangle of Perspex is the ideal surface upon which to trim photo-etched parts from their frame.

1. TURRET CLEAN-UP

The moulded-in location points on the turret's inner surface must be removed in preparation for the photo-etched parts' installation.

Using a Swann-Morton 15C blade, we can reach the trickiest areas with ease and pare away the raised location points.

Using a scraping motion, all traces of the location points are removed, taking care not to dig too deep.

Finally, a foam-backed sanding stick (from MDC) is used to smooth out the surface. The foam backing allows the abrasive to conform to the concave surface.

2. EJECTOR-PIN MARK REMOVAL

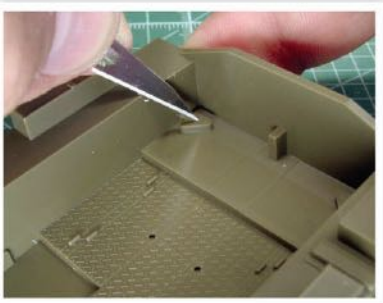
Those pesky ejector pin marks will be found inside the turret, so while we're working in this area, let's get rid of them. First, we score them with a blade to act as a key for the CA glue.

Then, medium-viscosity cyanoacrylate glue is applied over the mark, and slightly over its borders onto the surrounding plastic.

Once the glue has set (you can use accelerator), the excess is scraped down with the round-edged Swann-Morton scalpel blade.

After the excess glue has been levelled, the sanding stick was once again used to smooth out the whole area.

3. FIGHTING COMPARTMENT CLEAN-UP



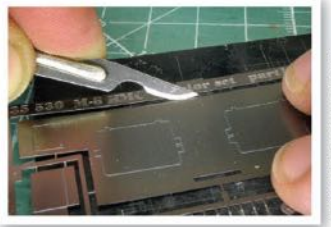
The hull interior is well detailed in this kit, and Eduard offer many parts to enhance the area. To fit them, some of the moulded-in detail must be removed.

To trim out the larger parts, sidecutters can be used, if they can be manoeuvred into place.

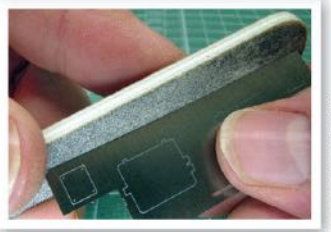
What appears to be a stowage box on the sponson top must be removed; a razor saw is perfect for this job.

The raised welt left after the box has been sawn away is scraped back with the curved No.15C blade.

4. THE FIRST PHOTO-ETCH GOES IN



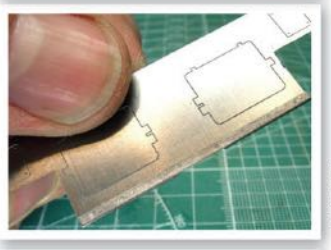
That curved Swann-Morton blade has many uses! Here, it is employed to trim the etched-brass firewall from its frame, resting on a piece of Perspex.



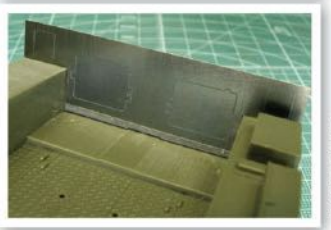
Once cut out, the firewall's edges were sanded using a rigid sanding stick so as not to distort the malleable metal part.

A 'Hold 'n Fold' is invaluable for the next step; bending the firewall's lower edge forwards to create a lip.

The formation of the lip is completed using a block of aluminium. If you don't have this, the edge of a steel ruler will suffice.



The folded lip can be seen here; it sports some nice bolthead detail.



The firewall has been dry-fitted here, within the prepared inner hull tub; it drops in perfectly.

NEXT TIME...

The installation of Eduard's set continues, and we move to the model's exterior too...

Although it looks in keeping with later war vehicles such as the Elephant or Jagdtiger, consider for a moment how huge the Sturer Emil was compared to contemporary tanks. Most German armour was fitted with short barrelled 50mm or 75mm cannon and the Tiger I had not yet appeared. Compared to armour fielded by any army 1942, the Sturer Emil was truly massive – capable of knocking out enemy armour at over two miles.

By mounting Rheinmetall's colossal Pak40 128mm L/61 onto Henschel's VK3001 prototype chassis, the designers created a very potent-looking tank hunter. The two prototypes were nicknamed Max and Moritz after the German writer Busch's classic tale of two terrible kids – always up to mischief and no good. Both vehicles were used on the Eastern Front, crewed by the 521st schwere Panzerjäger Abteilung. One was captured intact near Stalingrad in January 1943 and after public exhibition in Moscow's Gorky Park, ended up in the Kubinka collection where it can be seen today. The other vehicle soldiered on till the spring or summer of 1943 and is the vehicle modelled here.

Extra goodies to add

Series production never commenced as it was felt that the Tiger I would fulfil the tank destroyer role. Trumpeter's release of this fascinating vehicle has been well researched with most known interior details well represented. A very acceptable model of the Emil can be built straight from the box, however there are a few areas that really benefit from a few after-market goodies.

The tracks are the most obvious addition. The flexible tracks supplied by Trumpeter are well detailed, with the open guide horns well represented. However, the gentle sag between the upper return rollers is very difficult to replicate in this medium so individual tracks are an important upgrade. I used Model Kasten's individual working links on the model shown here.

Finally, the ammo racks really lend themselves to photo-etched parts. Aber, Eduard, Royal Model and Voyager all offer comprehensive sets. I chose Voyager as in addition to interior details, fenders are also included along with a useful pair of fifteen-ton resin jacks.

A MODELLING MISHAP

The key to ensuring all the parts provided by Voyager fit correctly is accurate folding. A 'folding aid' is therefore essential on this occasion. The sub-assemblies are best soldered to provide strength. Do take care when using a soldering iron... I damaged one of the fenders while fitting it to the hull and thought I would use my butane soldering iron to carry out a quick repair. The mudguard was re-soldered without a problem, but at the same time, I inadvertently melted the upper glacis and drivers visor! This is why you can see a plastic card replacement glacis and a drivers visor liberated from a Tamiya Panzer IV kit on the accompanying build shots. We all make mistakes!

The pair of armoured air intakes for the engine,

STUBBORN EMIL

The Sturer Emil or 'Stubborn Emil' could be considered the original 'Nazi super-weapon'. Angus Creighton super-details Trumpeter's 1:35 kit in his own, inimitable way

mounted either side of the crew door, are quite heavily moulded by Trumpeter. Although Voyager provides replacement parts in brass, I decided they would look better made from plastic card, with only the tread plate taken from the etched set. Underneath, I added etched mesh. This is not based on historical evidence, but would seem a logical addition to prevent a bold enemy dropping a grenade into the air intake. Similar mesh was installed on Panzer IIIs and StuGs.

The square bases supplied with the resin Voyager jacks were replaced with early-pattern rhomboid bases taken from the spares box. Images of the captured Emil in Gorky Park reveal that one jack was mounted vertically, while images of the Emil in service suggest that a second jack was fitted horizontally.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT

The pioneer tools fitted on the left-hand fender were taken from various items left over from previous projects. The jack blocks for example were resin copies of a master I made to suit Tiger projects. The pair of Jerry cans are by Tasca.

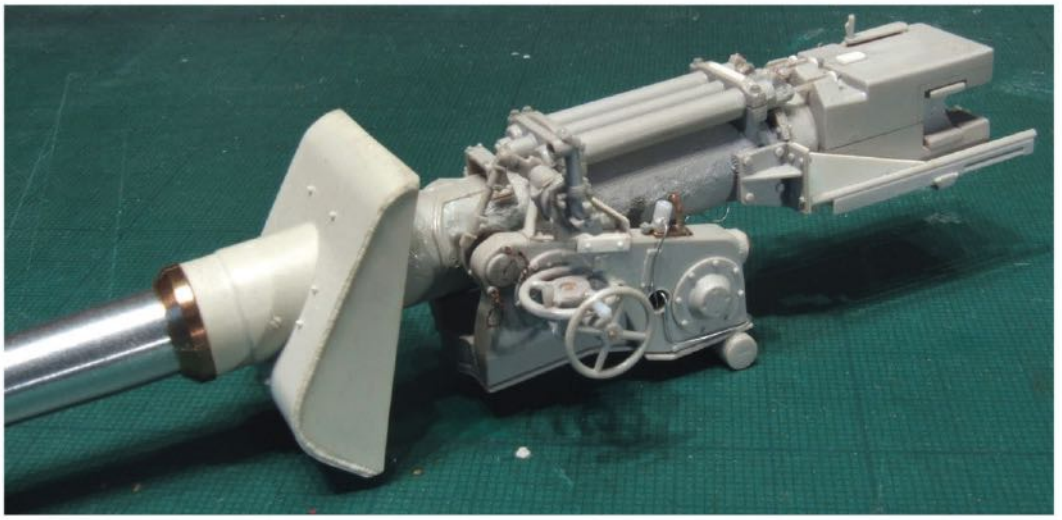
The gun cleaning rods mounted on the right fender were made from brass tube with fine wire added to represent the threaded ends. I couldn't track down clear images of this detail, but was unhappy with the four large rods provided by Trumpeter. If these details were indeed the gun cleaning rods on the original vehicle, you would need at least eight to match the length of the gun barrel.

Moving back briefly to the interior, the wooden planking fitted to the floor is well defined in the kit, but lacks any grain or texturing. This can be added with careful free hand scribing with a needle. The texture will be revealed once the wooden slats were drybrushed with an appropriate wood colour after the interior had been painted dark grey.

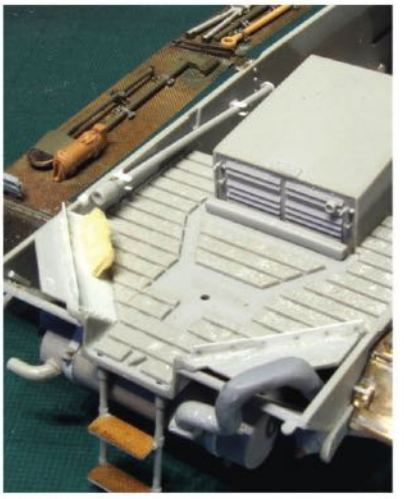
Both Max and Moritz were issued to the Eastern Front in standard panzer grey. The example lost in early 1943 outside Stalingrad had been thoroughly whitewashed, but once cleaned by the Russians prior the Gorky Park exhibition, revealed the original grey along with the unit markings. The kill marks on the barrel – up to thirty-six according to some sources, were painted over by the Russians prior to the exhibition.

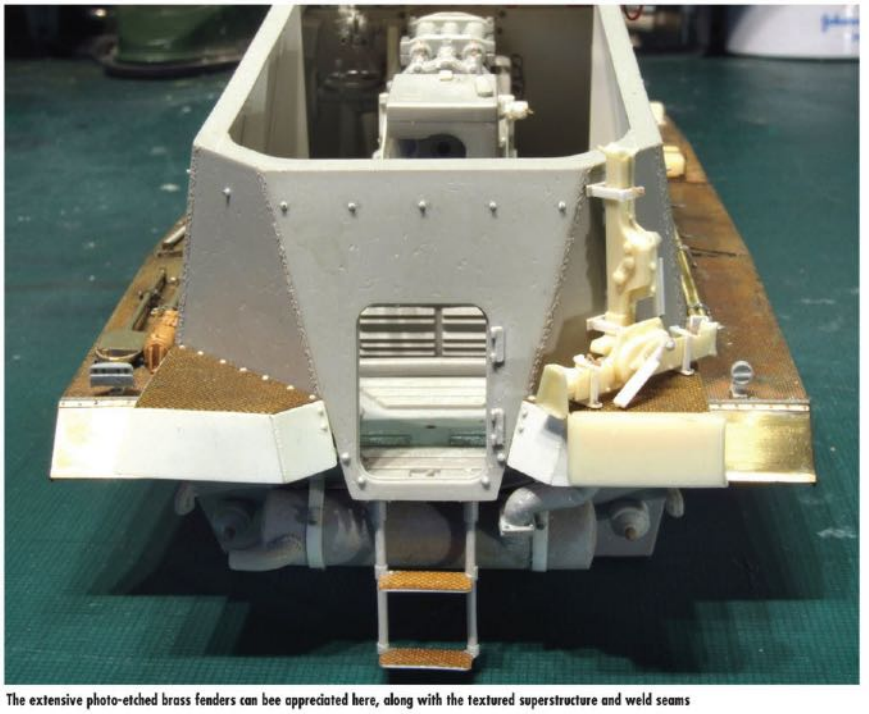
JUST PLAIN GREY?

Photographs of the second vehicle would suggest it survived into the spring or summer of 1943, by which time it had received a camouflaged scheme. This could have been an application of brown or green over the original grey, or possibly a full two-tone 'tropical' scheme. I opted to depict this surviving vehicle with a thin patchy over-spray of sand yellow. Studying one particular photograph, it is possible to make out a strip of the original grey running around the edge of the crew compartment. Surely this is a clue that the entire vehicle was indeed over-sprayed, with the grey remaining where the crew compartment canvas cover was fitted when spraying took place.•

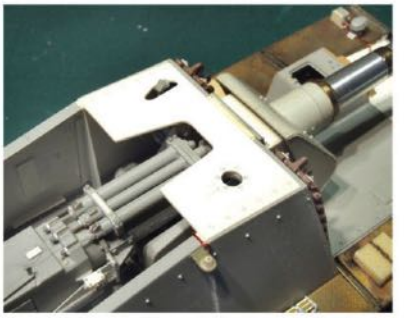


Armorscale's replacement aluminium barrel and resin mantlet set were used in the project and they make a significant improvement





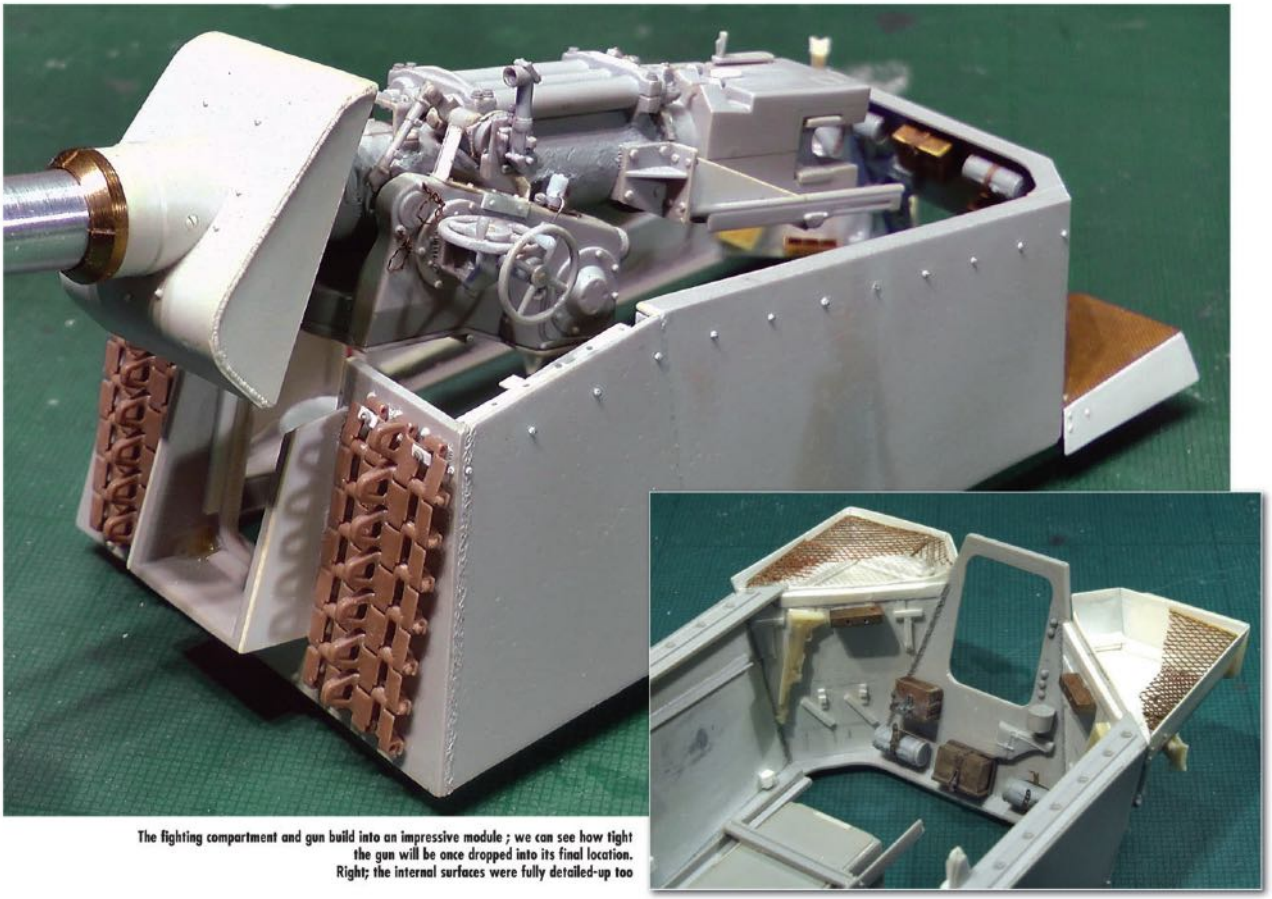
The extensive photo-etched brass fenders can bee appreciated here, along with the textured superstructure and weld seams



Top; masses of extra detail were added by the author. Note the textured fighting compartment floor and plastic card brackets supporting interior equipment.
Plastic card was also used to form a new forward roof section

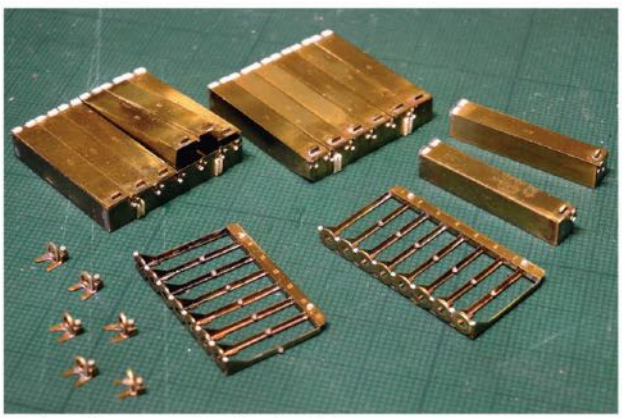
Drive sprockets received some additional texturing

The Sturer Emil has a distinctive shape at its rear, with a small, single access door at the back. Note the vast exhaust box and fixed steps up into the fighting compartment



The fighting compartment and gun build into an impressive module ; we can see how tight the gun will be once dropped into its final location. Right; the internal surfaces were fully detailed-up too

Model Kasten's track set was used for this project, allowing a natural sag to the wide tracks



Internal ammunition stowage was formed from photo-etched parts

It's not just grey! An overspray of dark-yellow was applied, referring to contemporary photos

MODELSPEC

1:35 scale Sturer Emil Trumpeter No: 00350

Sets used;

1:35 scale Sturer Emil Trumpeter No: 00350
Etched ammo racks, fenders and jacks Voyager No: PE 35064
Aluminium barrel Armorscale No: B35-021
Turned brass ammunition Armorscale No: A35-008
Individual injection plastic tracks Model Kasten No: SK-65
Towrope brackets Model Kasten No: A7

References used;

Internet and images found on expired eBay Auctions
Ground Power No 72, Delta Publishing 2000
Allied -Axis Issue 4, Ampersand Publishing 2001
Tiger and King Tiger Tanks - Walter J Spielberger, ISBN 0-85429-841-x, Haynes Publishing Group 1991

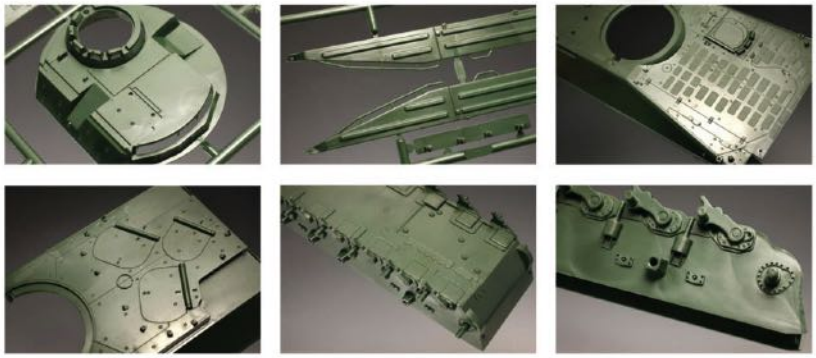
DIAL M FOR MARDER

It's not just a re-box – Revell have retooled the lower hull of this recent release...

The original Schutzenpanzer Marder first took up its post in the modern German army, the Bundeswehr, in the early 1970s, and it has undergone various upgrades in the intervening years. The '1A5 is the latest incarnation and it is this machine that Revell have chosen to depict here. It's right up to date and comes with decals and painting plans for two ISAF (International Security Assistance Force) machines, plus examples from Germany 2005 and a KFOR Marder form Kosovo, 2007.

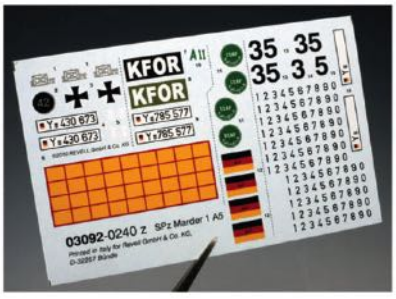
The mouldings are very crisp; you'll find a few mould part-lines here and there but they are well within acceptable limits and construction shouldn't take too long. The lower hull has been upgrade from the earlier kit to account for the 1A5's enhanced mine protection and you can now add Revell's own photo-etched set (00714) to the model too. This set features thoughtfully chosen items that will add a touch of extra refinement to the model (light guards, mudflaps, mesh grilles, periscope optic faces plus handles, brackets and other delicate fixtures and fittings).

The presence of accurately depicted non-slip patches on the upper hull and the revision of the lower hull make this an outstanding release that will build into an extremely handsome vehicle.•



Highlights of this new version are a re-tooled hull, new side-skirts and moulded-in anti-slip patches.

The one-piece, flexible tracks are well detailed and are perfectly useable.



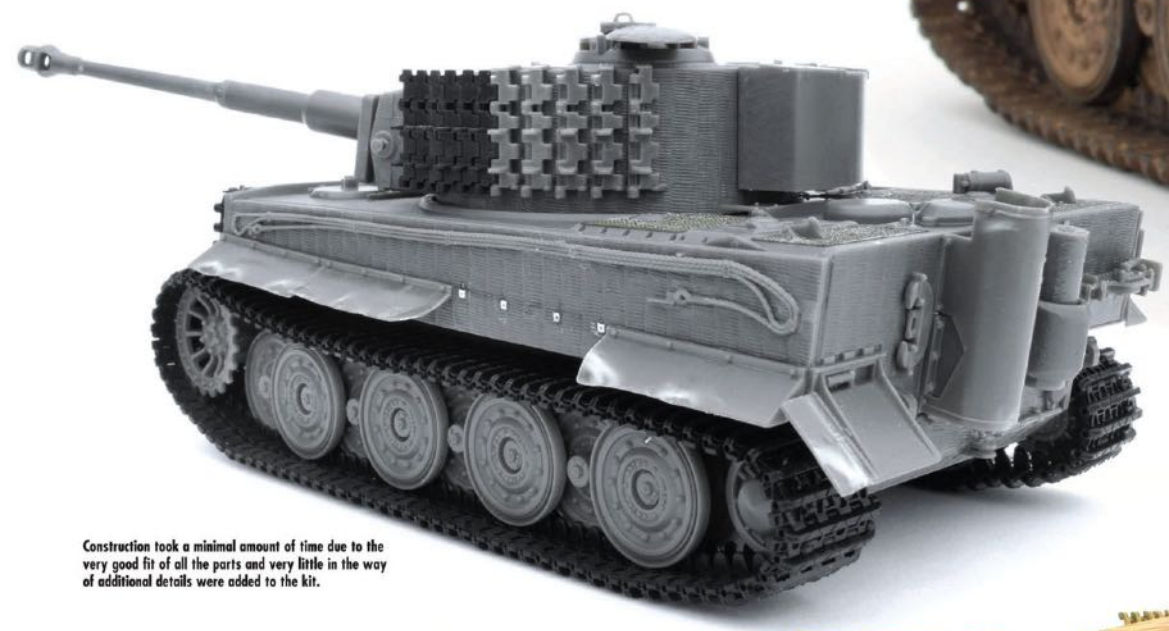
The decals carry markings for KFOR and ISAF vehicles, plus examples based in Germany.

Revell offer a photo-etched set for this kit. Main pic below, a Marder 1A3, the preceding variant.

PAWS FOR THOUGHT

Lester Plaskitt shows just how good a 1:48 armour kit can really look – yes, it really is 1:48...

Up until now, my main modelling subjects have all centred around 1:35 but with the growing popularity of 1:48, plus a decision by some of the members of my local model club to embark on a group build of 1:48 Tiger 1 models, I was steered into trying my hand at this scale. Looking for a model to start with I came across the excellent AFV Club late Tiger 1 (this was formally released by Skybow). The kit which gives a excellent rendition of a late production Tiger 1, coming complete with the required zimmerit finish and an etch-fret for the engine cooling grills. From the start I had decided that I did not want to go into the realm of super detailing and upgrading parts of the kit with aftermarket accessories as the main aim of this model was to concentrate on the painting and weathering, without spending a long time over a complicated build. One concession I did make to the after market accessory range was to replace the kit's 'rubber band' type tracks with some individual link AFV Club tracks which were far better detailed than the kit offerings, as I planned to depict a vehicle from Schwere Panzer Abt.507 which had extra track links added to the turret sides for additional armour protection. I ordered an extra set of individual links to make up the required extra links on the turret and hull front. Hopefully in the following photographs I will be able to give a description of the various stages of painting and weathering! •



Construction took a minimal amount of time due to the very good fit of all the parts and very little in the way of additional details were added to the kit.

The model with the basic colours applied. Vallejo Desert Yellow was lightened with Off White for the base 'Dunkelgelb' colour which was applied via airbrush over a dark brown undercoat

The red brown camouflage colour was made with Red Leather and German Camouflage Brown. This mix was heavily thinner with tap water and airbrushed onto the model in a random 'tree branch' pattern

The base-coated model awaiting further weathering applications

At this stage the camouflage colours appear too bright and require toning down. To achieve this, the model was carefully drybrushed over the flat panelled areas (taking care to avoid any edges) with Humbrol Enamel 94 lightened with a small amount of Matt White, until the red brown pattern took on a more scale appearance

As nearly all of the author's modelling is in 1:35 he struggled to find suitable markings to match the number for Abt.507. Archer decals provided what he needed. The numbers on the Archer sheet came in stencil format, so after they had been applied the author painted in the body of the number using Vallejo Off White. To reproduce the numbers' black outline he used a fine-line black felt-tip pen

The kit gives a excellent rendition of a late production Tiger 1

With the rub down decals applied it was time to seal them and give the model a satin finish which will help the subsequent washes flow and protect the base colours from the following weathering procedures. The varnish used was Games Workshop Satin in an aerosol can. The washes were created using a mix of burnt umber and sepia oil paints heavily thinned with white spirit

To add some life to the spare track links, the colours used as the track base colour were individually sponged over the links using a small piece of sponge obtained from some packaging used for electrical goods. Each of the individual colours were carefully applied over each other until the track links took on a variety of different shades which I had observed on pictures of real life track links. This finish would be further enhanced in the later stages of the weathering process

With the localised colour-washes fully dry it was time to apply a series of fine scratches where areas of the red brown and base yellow colours had been scratched and scuffed away. This process can add a great deal of interest to the paintwork but must be done in a logical pattern on areas that would be prone to this type of wear. A 50/50 mix of Vallejo beige and sand yellow (well thinned using tap water) was applied with a fine pointed brush

Once the highlighted scratches were completed it was time to undercoat the spare tracks fitted to the turret and front of the hull and again Vallejo paints were used, in this case, mixes of Blue Grey, Orange Red and Chocolate Brown

Above and below left; once the tools and tow cables had be appropriately weathered, these items and areas of extreme wear such as the edges of the crew hatches were given a subtle metallic sheen using a graphite pencil

Now the spare tracks had been painted, the tank's turret numbers that were painted over the spare tracks can be applied. First, the decals were applied then painted in using Vallejo paint and finally the black out line was added

To recreate the tones of the mud build up, the author used a variety of earth colours shown here. Each colour was laid out on a palette and then various shades were mixed and painted onto the mud deposits on the hull and wheels. The mud deposits had been built up using epoxy putty and applied to the model before painting. The putty was textured while wet with stiff-bristled brush

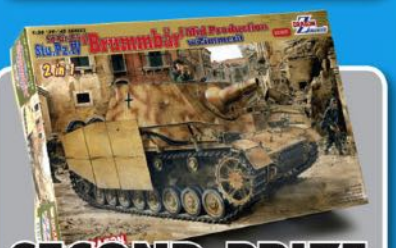
COMPETITION

WIN SELF-PROPELLED ARTILLERY!

Win one of Dragon's superb 1:35 SPGs this time in this free-to-enter competition

Up for grabs this time are Dragon's Stu.Pz.IV Brummbär Early-Production (with zimmerit), Stu.Pz.IV Brummbär Mid-Production (with zimmerit) and Panzerjäger I Early Production. Simply take a good look through this issue of Military Illustrated Modeller AFV Edition, examine the photo-clips below then tell us which models they are taken from! All three models appear in this issue, somewhere...

FIRST PRIZE
Dragon 1:35 Stu.Pz.IV Brummbär Early-Production (6596)



SECOND PRIZE
Dragon 1:35 Stu.Pz.IV Brummbär Mid-Production (6500)

THIRD PRIZE
Dragon 1:35 Panzerjäger I Early Production (6258)

Put your answers on a postcard, along with your name, address and post-code and send it to us at;

MiM-AFV Dragon Self-Propelled Artillery Competition
ADH Publishing, Doolittle Mill
Doolittle Lane, Totternhoe
Bedfordshire, LU6 1QX UK

All entries must reach us by August 15th 2011, so send your entry in now! Our thanks to The Hobby Company for supplying the prizes www.hobbyco.net

THE HOBBY COMPANY LIMITED

www.hobbyco.net

The Jackal 1 SRV 'Mobility Weapon-Mounted Installation Kit' is a four wheel drive AFV that was procured by the United Kingdom's Ministry of Defence in response to an urgent requirement for a vehicle that was capable of providing protection and increased firepower for British troops serving overseas in current conflicts; Iraq and Afghanistan. Its role is one of reconnaissance and long-range surveillance, which explains its somewhat unusual, roofless construction. This layout affords the crew the best possible visibility, far more than a closed in, armoured box might do, although it does render them vulnerable if a fire-fight should occur.

The vehicle features an armoured belly that offers significant protection against mines (IEDs) and the doors/side panels also contain ballistic armour. The crew are partially protected by a rollover cage should the Jackal be flipped over by an explosion.

The Jackal 1 is made in Devon, UK by Babcock Marine from a design by Supacat. It is powered by a six litre, 185bhp Cummins diesel which powers all four wheels through an automatic gearbox giving it an impressive top speed of eighty miles per hour. Armament consists of one 12.7mm heavy machine gun (.50cal) or a 40mm grenade launcher on a ring-mount plus a 7.62 GPMG mounted at the front of the cabin and operated by the passenger. Communications is via the Bowman radio system. Jackal 1 entered service with the British Army in April 2008

MADE IN SCOTLAND!

Accurate Armour offer three 1:35 kits of this family of AFVs; the Jackal 1 reviewed here, the Jackal 2 and the six-wheeled Coyote. The kits were developed with the co-operation of Supacat and as such are extremely accurate and highly detailed. The Jackal 1 is cast in greenish-grey resin and comes with a well stocked sheet of photo-etched brass detail parts, waterslide decals, cord, clear resin castings for the headlights, polystyrene rod for the aerials. The instructions are adequate; they are of the annotated photographic type and demand a little more effort to interpret from the builder than, say, a set of Tamiya instructions, but they do cover all aspects of assembly well with only a few head-scratching moments. Maybe higher resolution photos to show where parts go in more detail, plus some more extensive constructional notes would help smooth the assembly process.

The model, as is the real machine, is based around a sturdy chassis tub that builds up from interlocking sections. Once the casting plugs have been removed the sections fit together rather well, any gaps being filled naturally with CA glue as you build.

UNDERPINNINGS

The suspension is taken care of in an equally efficient manner with discrete modules for each corner. These can be built up completely away from the chassis and installed once ready,

DAY OF THE (MWMIK) JACKAL

Marcus Nicholls builds Accurate Armour's impressively complex 1:35 kit of the British Army's Jackal 1 APC

very convenient and quite easy. Photo-etched brass parts are added as you proceed and the metal is easy to form; the metal parts are made by Accurate Armour themselves and are not commissioned from third-party producers.

As the model progresses, the difficulty level increases - the rollcage is particularly tricky to build and I recommend you make extensive dry-fits here. As is the norm with resin kits, there are few if any location pins/holes so you'll be making plenty of butt-joints, further escalating the fiddlyness. A few parts were mis-numbered too (I believe #75 should be #155, and #76 should be #156) but all came right in the end. I suggest looking first at the photo of the complete rollcage on page ten of the instructions and working your way backwards, it seems much easier this way.

I added some lengths of lead wire to the aerials although I did need to introduce some imagination as to where the other ends entered the vehicle's body; detailed online references are scarce for this vehicle, for obvious reasons.

The .50cal HMG is very well detailed and its mount is monstrously complicated. The instructions were not very clear as to where each tiny part was to go, and so some guess-work (plus squinting at fuzzy internet JPEGS) was needed to bring the whole thing together. My, oh my, how the .50cal mount has evolved since WW2.

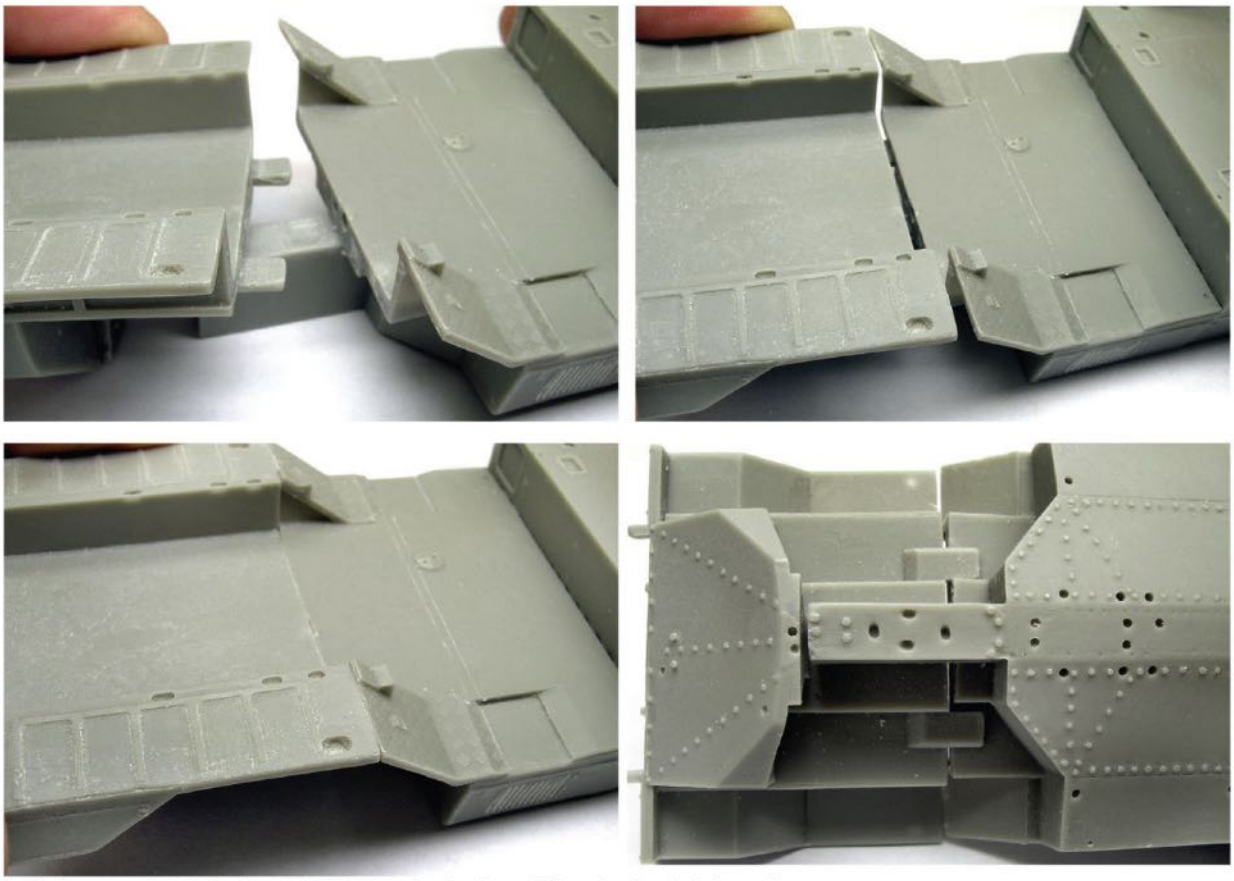
SUB-ASSEMBLIES

I recommend building up the 'nose' of the Jackal as a sub-assembly and fitting it at the end of construction after you have painted the driver's cabin; it fits easily at this stage with just the central element of the rollcage (#28) dropping in with a spot of CA glue at either end. Talking of the cabin, this area is well appointed with Recaro-style seats (unfortunately the castings are clones, so the cast-in seat belts look the same on both seats), individual foot-pedals, superb non-slip plating on the floor and a finely detail dashboard with decals for the dials. The open-topped nature of the vehicle allows this excellent interior to be fully displayed.

To my mind, the wheels/tyres are the highlight of this model, they really are a joy to behold. Once you have snipped and cleaned away the casting blocks and carefully opened up any flashed-over holes (spares) they can be primed and put to one side for painting. I didn't add any flat spots as photos of the real machines seem to show the tyres at high pressure with little or no visible 'sagging'.

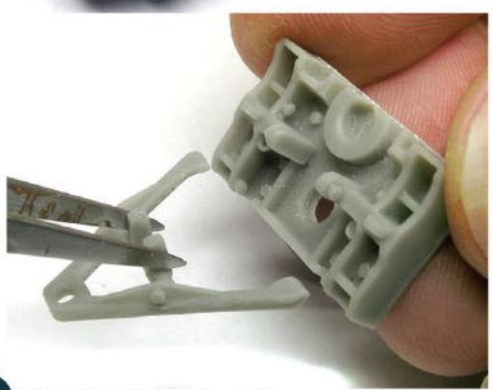
CONCLUSIONS?

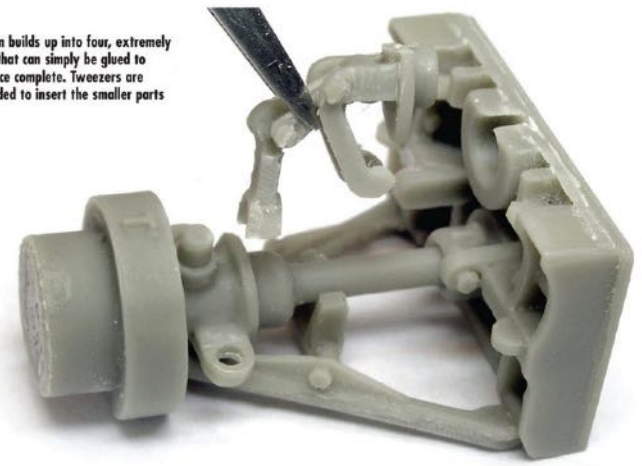
This is a highly detailed, complex, precision kit of a very interesting and up to date vehicle. It's not for beginners as the rollcage assembly is quite tricky to build and fit, but for the intermediate modeller with a few resin models under belt it will prove a satisfying and enjoyable project. As always, let's hand over now to the photo-sequences for final construction, painting and weathering.•

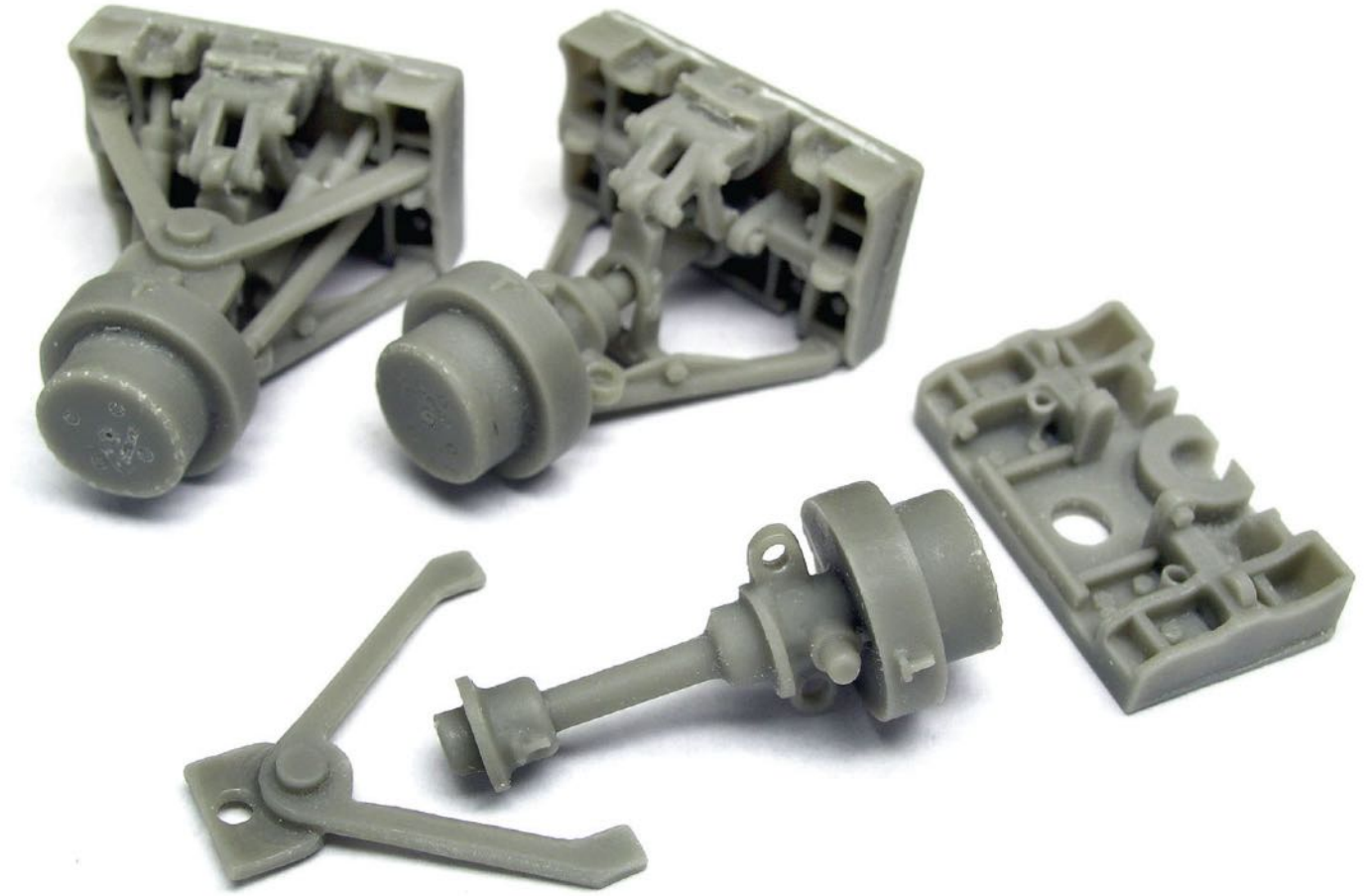


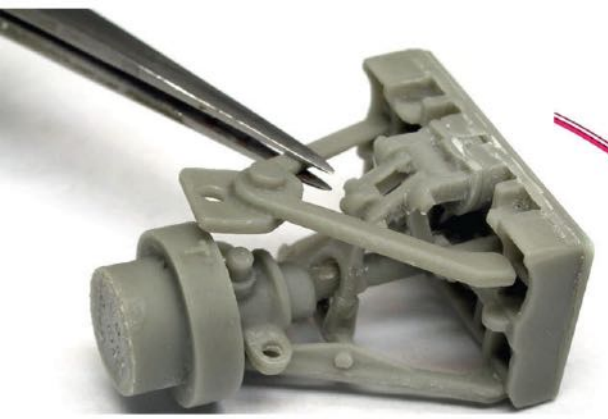
Once the chassis portions have been cleaned up, they fit together extremely well. Small gaps will fill naturally with CA glue thanks to capillary action

The suspension builds up into four, extremely tidy modules that can simply be glued to the chassis once complete. Tweezers are definitely needed to insert the smaller parts

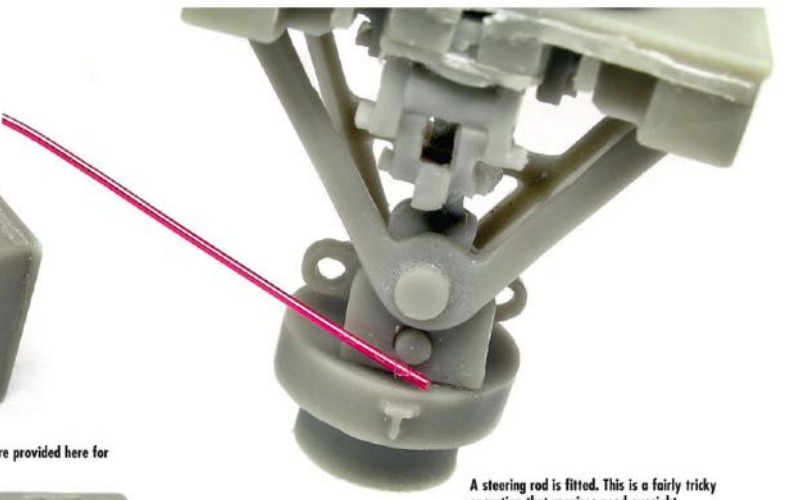




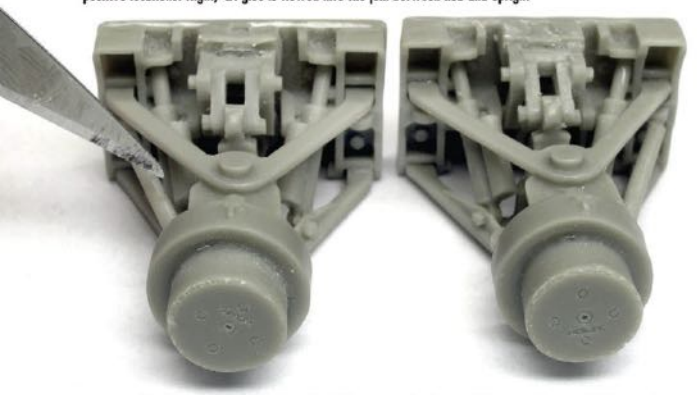




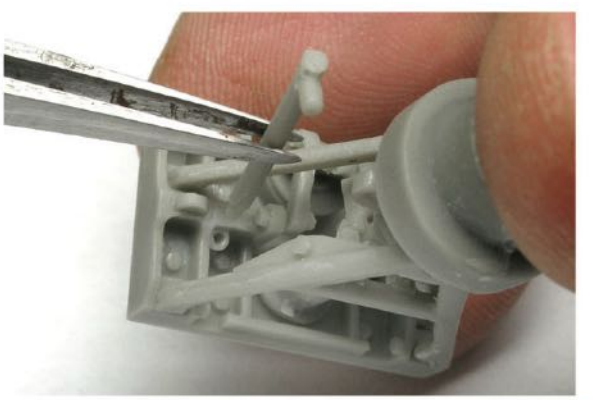
Above; a suspension wishbone is being manoeuvred into place. Location holes/pins are provided here for positive locations. Right; CA glue is flowed into the join between hub and upright



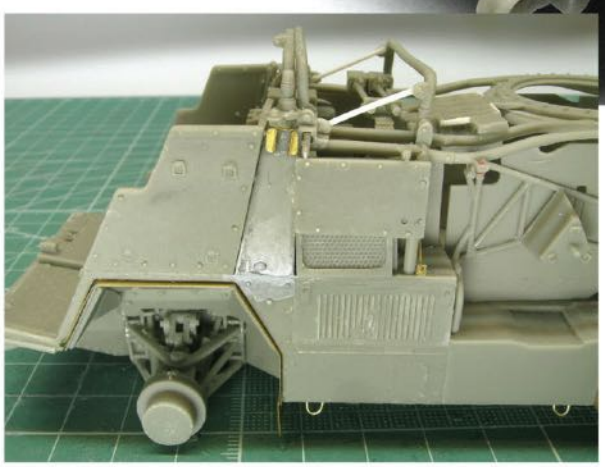
A steering rod is fitted. This is a fairly tricky operation that requires good eyesight



The kit comes with the option to set the suspension in one of three positions; neutral, on-road and off-road. We chose standard, on-road mode



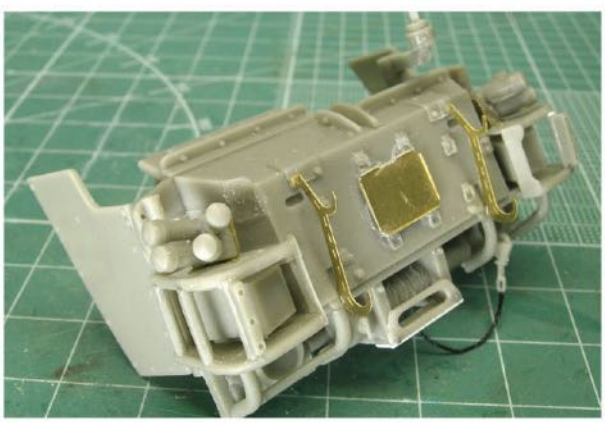
The non-slip plating on the cabin floor is extremely well done



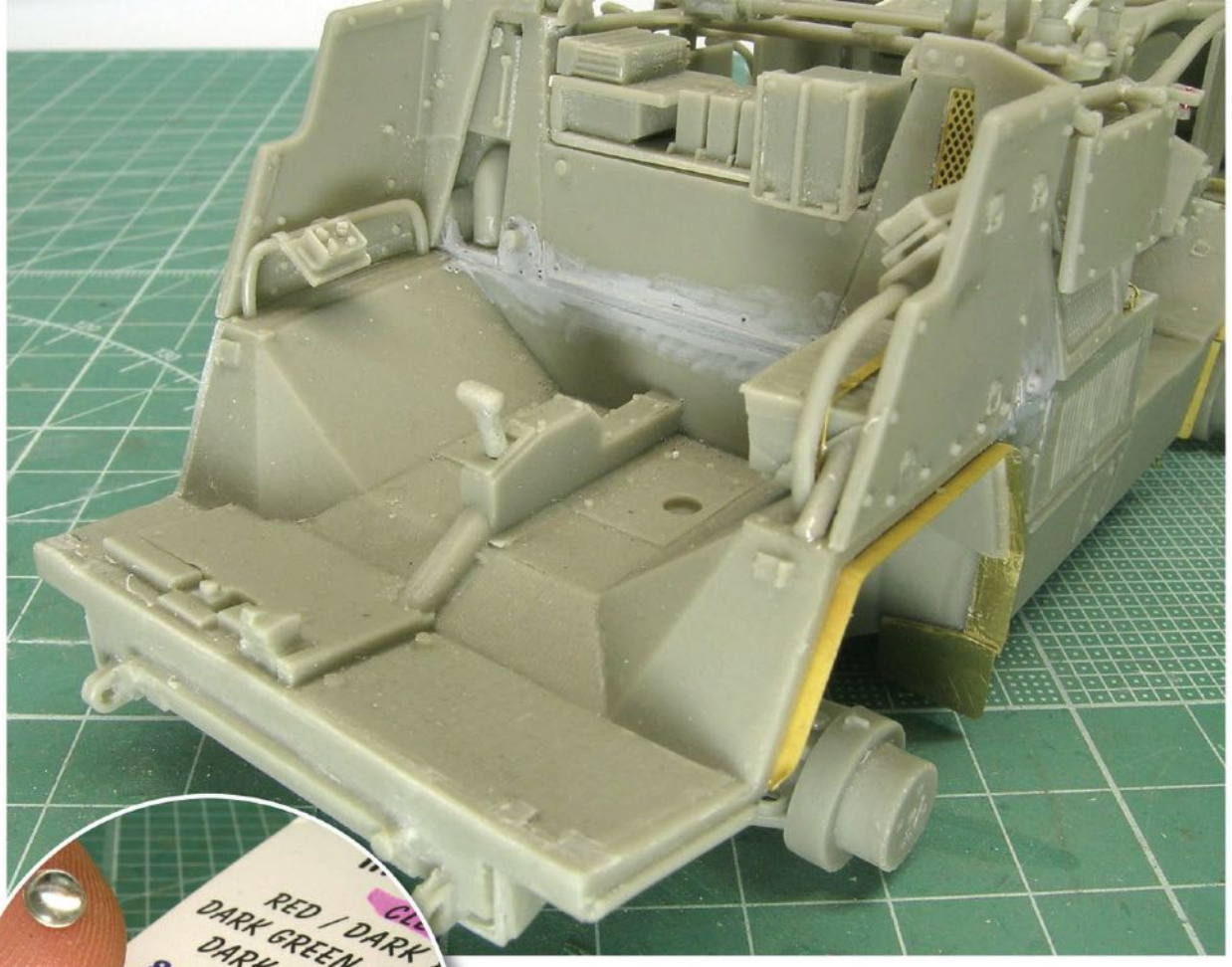
The louvres on the side of the model were a little mangled in our example

The racks over the rear wheels just need the addition of fuel or water jerrycans

The shovels were slightly mis-cast so were partially re-built using CA glue and a file



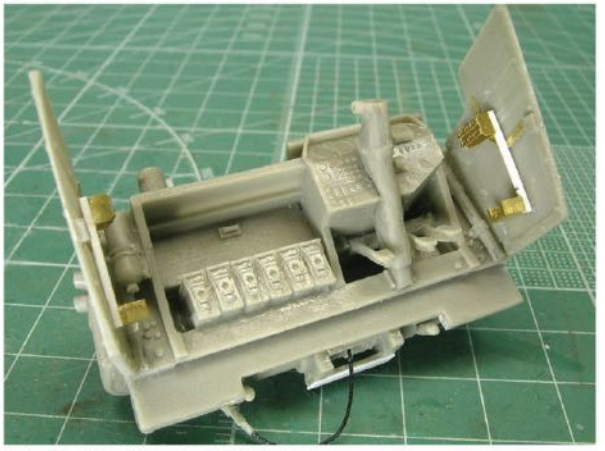
The forward portion of the Jackal body was left off until the very end of construction



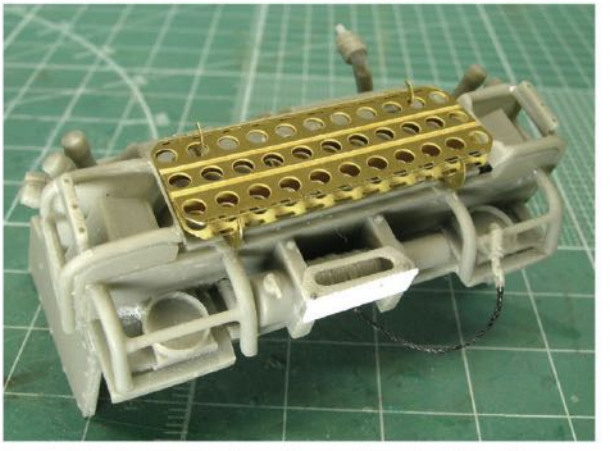
Little Cars' 'Little Lenses' were used to improve the look of the model's headlights. www.little-cars.co.uk

A quick wipe of Mr Surfacer 500 was used to conceal a hairline gap where the forward bulkhead met the lower hull

The photo-etched narrow mud guards must be fitted before the wheel arch liners are cement in



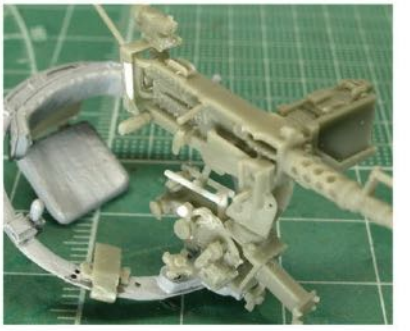
Dashboard and foot pedals are beautifully detailed



The winch under the 'chin' is protected with a guard frame, partially re-made with plastic card

The GPMG is a finely detail piece and comes with a photo-etched mount

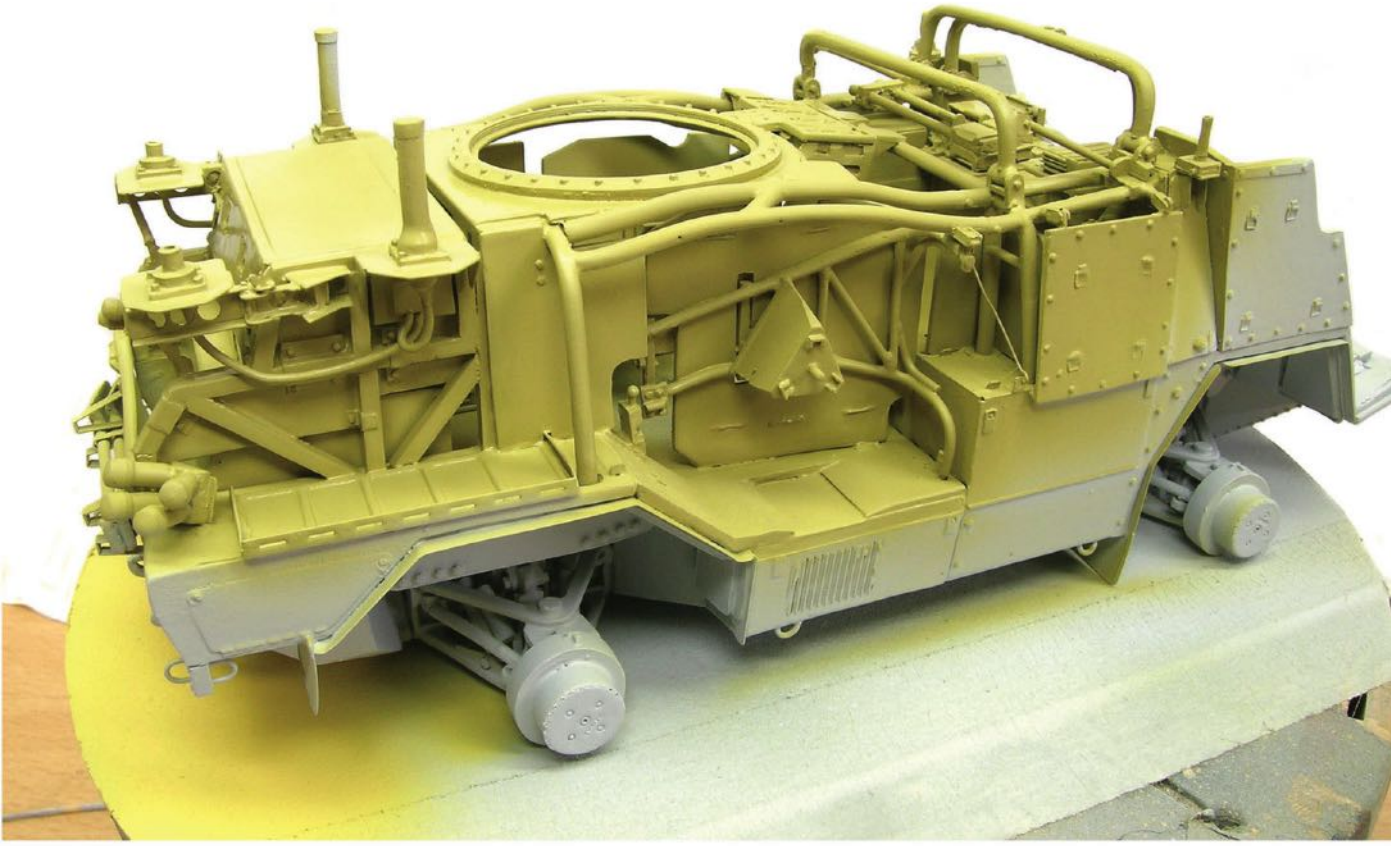
The Recaro-style seats are well detailed but the belts are identically positioned. Modellers wishing to add some individuality might wish to pare them off and rebuild them so they look different

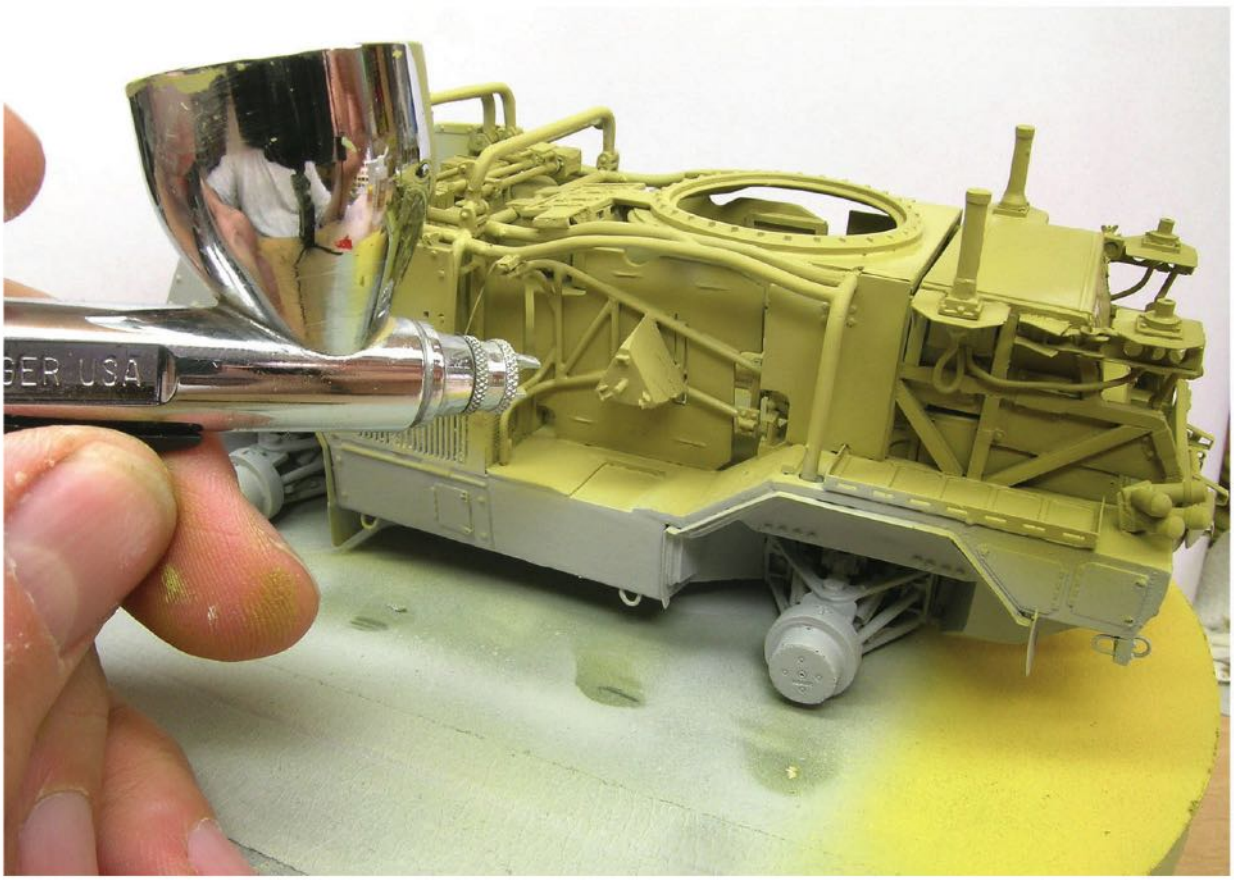


The M2 Browning HMG provided in AA's kit is extremely well detailed, but its mount is complex and a little guesswork might be needed during construction

The tyres/wheels are a highlight of the kit and look great once weathered

Great care is needed during handling!

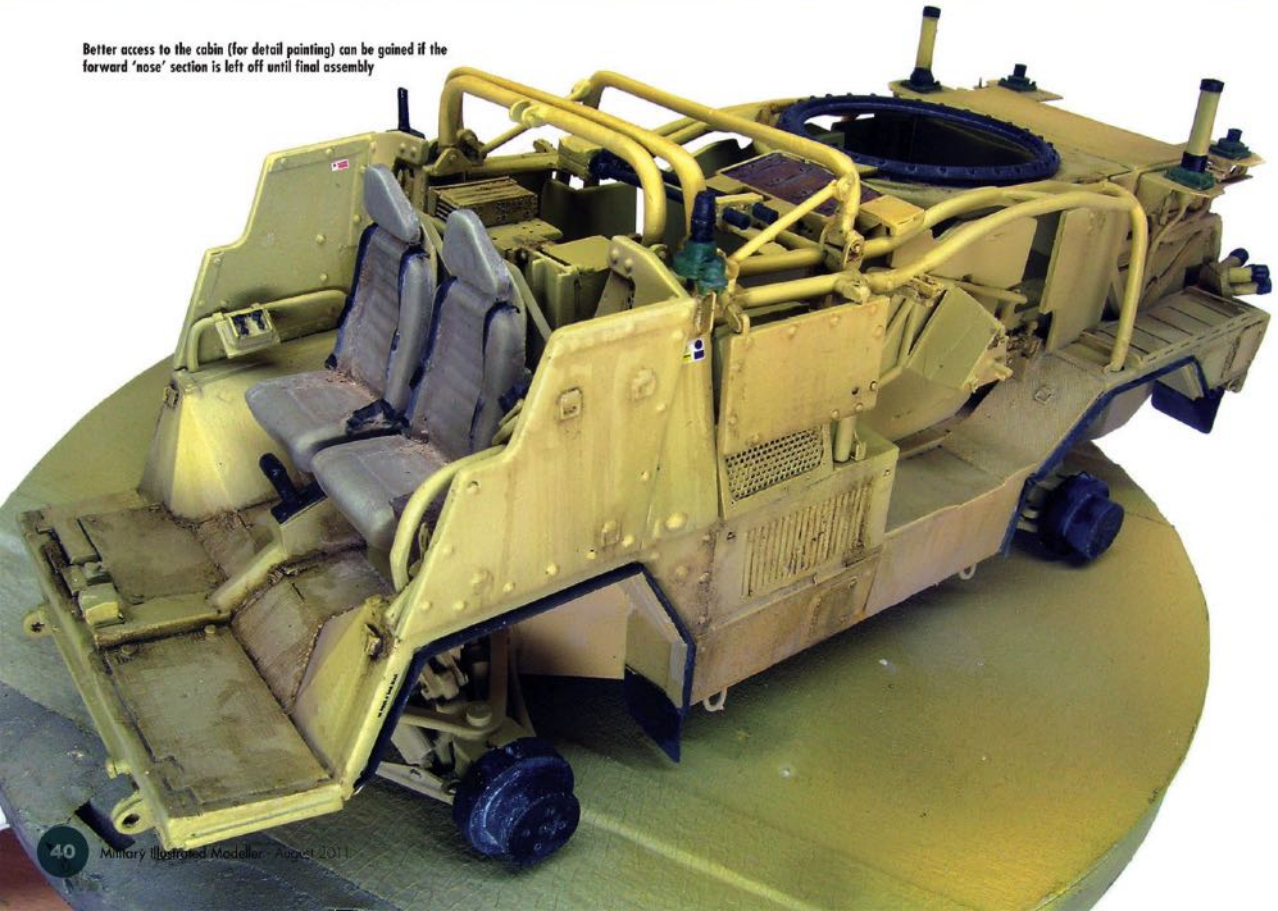


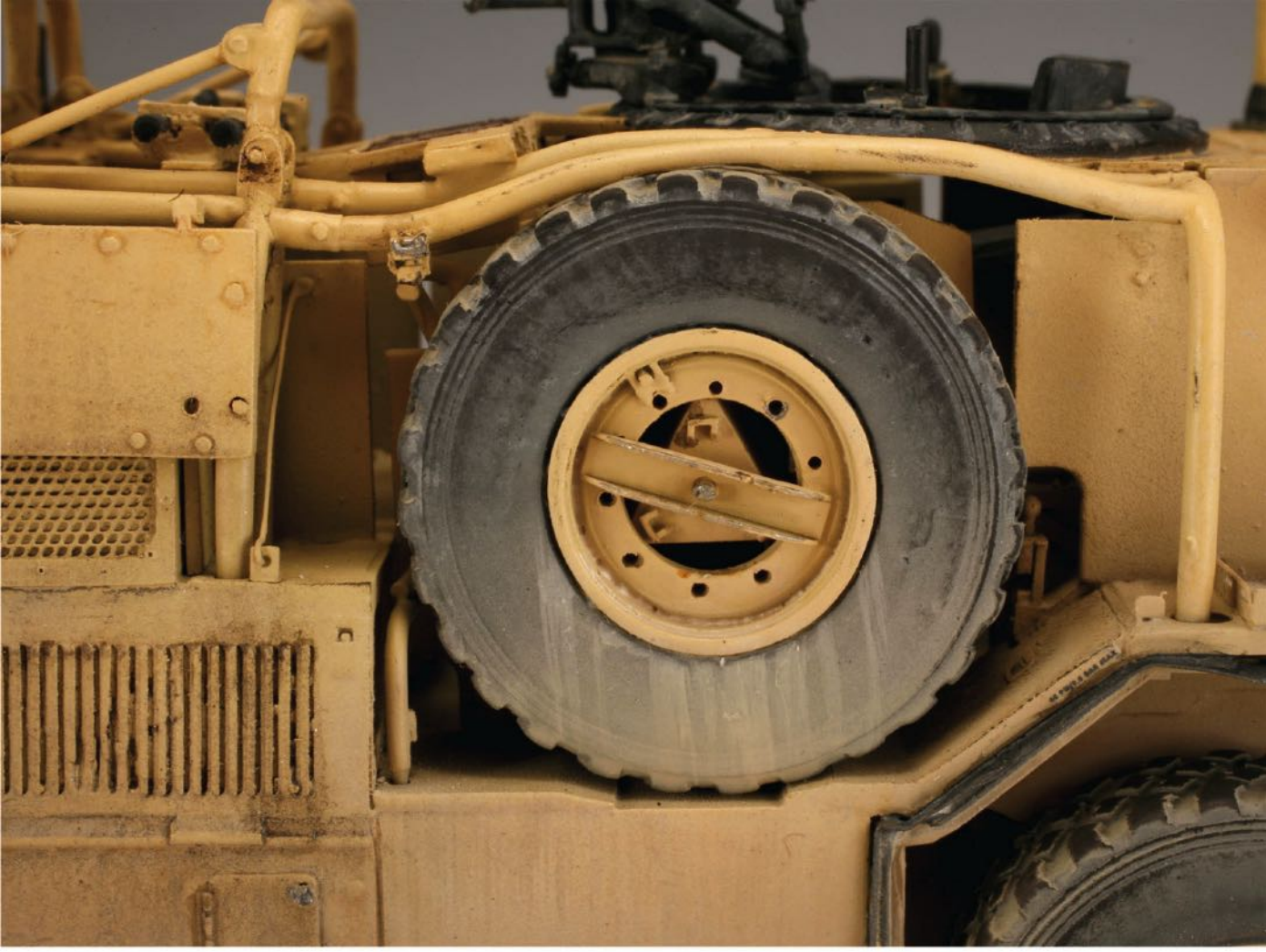


Badger's Renegade 'Krome' double-action airbrush was used to paint the Jackal. It performed extremely well, able to cope with medium-area coverage and fine, close-up work with equal ability

After drilling holes into the treads (these will be hidden once the holes are positioned at 'bottom-dead-centre' on the model), cut-down, bamboo kebab skewers were inserted to form sturdy handles for painting the wheels/tyres. The whole model was then undercoated with Tamiya XF-60 Dark Yellow

Better access to the cabin (for detail painting) can be gained if the forward 'nose' section is left off until final assembly





'This is a highly detailed, complex, precision kit of a very interesting and up to date vehicle.'

A pair of sand-channels are provided in photo-etched brass. Behind these, you'll find the license plate, a choice of which are supplied on the decal sheet

The Jackal maybe only be lightly armoured but it carries some serious firepower in the form of an M2 Browning HMG

MODELSPEC

Accurate Armour 1:35 scale Jackal 1 Kit No.K176

Cast polyurethane resin, photo-etched brass, waterslide decals, plastic rod, cord.

References used;

A few online, but kit is very comprehensive so you can build pretty much 'from the box' with confidence.

Availability;

Accurate Armour kits and products are available direct, from;

www.accurate-armour.com

ORDNANCE DEPOT

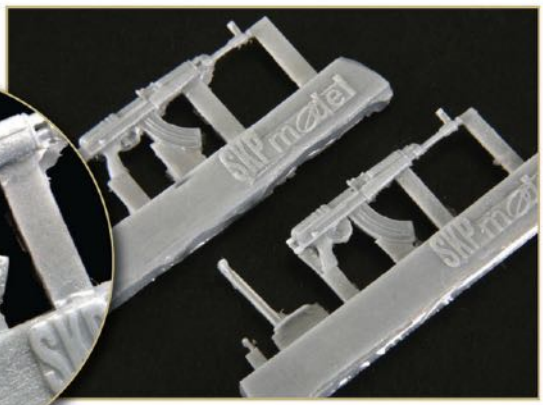
New and recently issued photo-etched metal, plastic and resin sets for armour modelling projects

SKP, FROM CZECH REPUBLIC

1:35 Tracks, lights and small-arms sets

SKP Model have created these very crisp 1:35 Panther tracks from a chocolate-brown resin and they should fit a range of kits from Tamiya to Dragon. They require no clean-up at all and snap together easily, remaining fully articulated. For 1:35 HUMVEEs, SKP's clear resin on photo-etched metal light set will add a convincing touch of sparkle; simply trim from the fret and fit with CA glue. The resin vz.58 assault rifle set accurately depicts this Czech weapon and comes with solid and folding stocks (two of each type) plus magazine pouches, bayonets, printed paper slings and photo-etched buckles – very nice indeed. *MN*

- **Clickable tracks for Panther A-G (SKP102)**
- **Assault rifle vz.58 (SKP118)**
- **Light lenses for HUMVEE (SKP122)**



WHERE TO BUY?
Panda Plastics;
www.shermantracks.com
SKP Model;
www.skpmodel.eu
Verlinden Productions;
www.historexagents.com
Voyager Model;
www.modelwholesaleuk.com
www.whiteensignmodels.com

VOYAGER, FROM CHINA

1:35 Replacement resin wheels/tyres

This set of five, beautifully cast replacement resin wheels comes with 'Super Swamper tyre and will be at home on kits by Tamiya, Academy, Bronco etc. Flawlessly cast with very fine detail. *MN*

- **Modern HUMVEE/DUMVEE family Super Swamper wheels w/spare (PEA245)**

VERLINDEN PRODUCTIONS, FROM THE USA

1:35 M4A3 Engine set

Designed to fit Tasca's sublime M4A3 Sherman kit, this set comes with a full engine bay, cooling fans, firewall and, of course, the engine itself. Cast to perfection by the originators of aftermarket production. *MN*

• Sherman M4A3 engine and compartment, for Tasca (2644)

PANDA PLASTICS, FROM THE USA

1:35 M4 Sherman tracks

The Sherman tank was notorious for burning-out when hit and the rubber blocks of certain types of its track would often burn away too. This set of 'skeleton' tracks emulates this effect, ideal for knocked out machines and runners too; crews would continue to drive on them when the rubber wore away and replacements couldn't be sourced. These injection-moulded links are extremely well detailed and although time-consuming to put together, will look great when fitted. *MN*

• 1:35 Sherman skeleton track (n/a)

GORKOVSKY AUTOMOBILNY ZAVOD - THE GAZ 69!

Lars Richter takes on Bronco's superb little GAZ-69 and finishes it as an East German Army machine

The Russian GAZ-69 is a four wheel drive light truck, produced Gorkovsky Automobilny Zavod between 1953 and 1955. From 1954 until 1972 it was produced by UAZ, as UAZ-69, though they were commonly known as GAZ-69s as well. Many thousands of these cars were produced and saw service worldwide, mainly with the former Warsaw Pact countries. The M-variant was the export version and the only apparent difference was the use of a modified engine.

Recently, Bronco launched a new plastic kit of this vehicle in co-operation with the Czech manufacturer, SKP Model. I personally think the moulds are from SKP, while Bronco has undertaking the task of mass production and distribution worldwide.

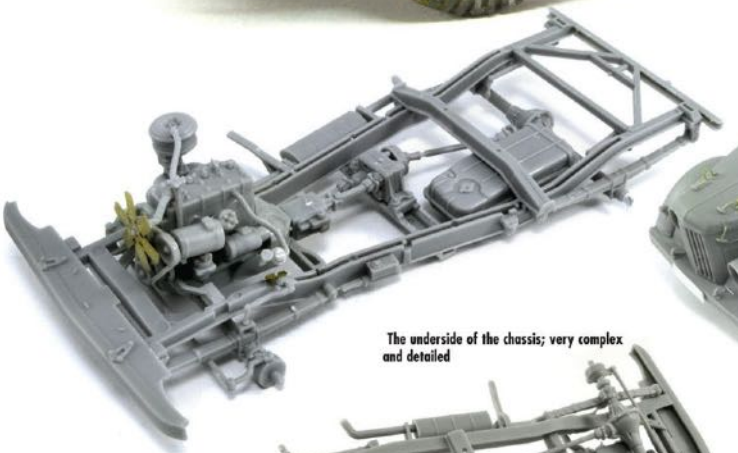
The Bronco-branded kits have different decal options with – a pleasure for me – decals for an NVA Nationale Volksarmee (East German Army) version. The kit comes in a nice box and inside we find eight sprues of grey plastic, one in clear, a PE-set, a one-piece moulded hood and nice looking decals.

I was very curious about this kit and I started the building immediately. My first impression was absolutely fine (and finer) moulded details, very tiny plastic parts and no flash; absolutely stunning! But be aware – there are a lot of single parts to glue and you'll need a lot of time for building.

In view of the number of small parts, I prefer to strictly follow the instructions. Every little detail is precisely reproduced; assembly required two evenings and one point I thought "dear Bronco, less could be more," however, after finishing steps one to seven I had an extremely finely detailed chassis with engine sitting in front of me. For example, the engine and transmission are made up of no less than thirty-seven individual parts! The engine matches perfectly compared with pictures of real GAZ engines and if you want build the kit with an open bonnet you'll need only some additional wires and tubes to create an authentic replica.

From step eight the instructions show the assembly of the interior. All parts are again very fine moulded here. Contrary the instructions in step ten, I didn't glue the wheels on the axles. From then on, there were 'only' small details remaining to complete the model. Deviating from the instructions, I replaced the windshield holding device with PE parts from the spare box, added a wire at the searchlight and I made new (typical for East German army) license plate holders from plastic.

In step fourteen you reach the point where you must decide on an erected or folded windshield. Because you must fix the windshield at this stage it is necessary to mask off the clear areas to protect them and for this I used Tamiya masking tape. You have the option between a version with or without the canvas cover and both versions have their own charm. For my taste the 'topless' version looks more like a vehicle for leisure time activities than a military vehicle, so I chose 'top up'.



The underside of the chassis; very complex and detailed

A general overview of sub assemblies, note the masked-off windscreen

The GAZ completely assembled. Even without paint, it has an impressively realistic appearance

Well, the assembly is time consuming but without real problems. The instructions are very well done and easy to understand. I decided to build a simple base for this utility vehicle to show the GAZ in its element; difficult terrain. For the base I used mainly natural products from mother nature and some products from MiniArt. The most impressive piece is the tree from MiniArt – very realistic.

CONCLUSION

I am pleasantly surprised! Bronco selected a very unique subject here and offers, together with SKP, a very fine and detailed kit. This model offers tremendous opportunities, so you can build a military vehicle from former Warsaw Pact armies, vehicles with unique conversions, private used vehicles from collectors or even a colourful civil vehicle. The kit itself is an up-to date, high quality product; every pound (or EUR) is well invested. Absolutely recommended! •

A base-coat was applied using a dark greys mixed from German and medium grey

The green tone was the result of many attempts; XF-58, XF-21 and XF-3. The colour was mixed with some drops of Clear (X-22) to get a smooth surface

The author found a realistic mixture for the typical hood colour; XF-21, XF-23 and a little bit of X-4

The used decals are from TL-Decals – better and much more extensive than the decals from the box (if you want to build a NVA-version!)

Decals for the instrument panel were fixed with Microscale products

The lights were painted with silver from Vallejo; next time the author will use 'chrome' as it works better than silver

Fading and detail-wash steps were made with oil paints

A mixture of XF-49 and XF-52 were sprayed onto lower areas as a basis for dust effects

To represent more dust the author worked with CMK Pigments (Light Earth, Dark Earth and Dark Dust)

Working with pigments is always a critical moment – too much and you will ruin your model. Less is more, so the author stopped applying them at this stage

Looking for a special effect for fuel runs? The ideal product for this is Mig Productions' Oil and Grease Stain Mixture

ABOUT THE MODELLER

Name: LARS RICHTER, but friends call me 'UNCLE LARS'

Age: Almost 40

Lives: Germany, in the wonderful old Bavarian town of Würzburg

Modelling experience: I remember my parents gave me an airplane kit as present in my childhood, I think I've been in modelling since that time

Favourite modelling subject: I love cool looking subjects, no matter if Axis or Allied, old or modern.. But my favourite is modelling in quarter-inch scale

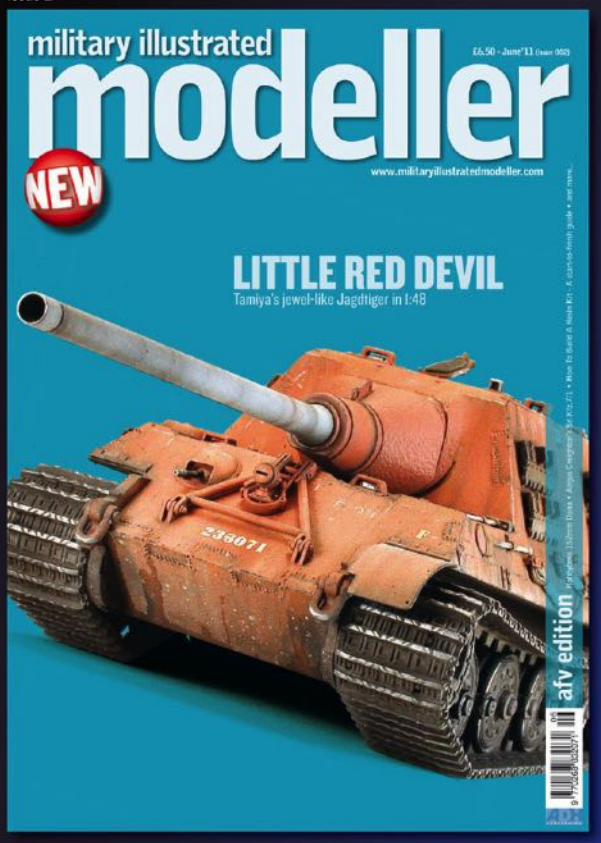
Anything else: Modelling can be addictive – maybe one of the nicest kinds of craving! I hope we all will see more many talented modellers around the world. Happy modelling!

AVAILABILITY

Bronco Models are available from Hannants; www.hannants.co.uk

For the serious Modeller

Issue 2



Issue 3

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BUNDESWEHR'S DWARF LEOPARD

Amidst the classic Panthers and Panzer IIIs, Revell offer some unusual and interesting AFVs in their 1:35 model kit range. The Wiesel 2 LeFlaSys 'Ozelot' is one of the latest – Marcus Nicholls builds, details, paints and weathers this superb little kit

The Stinger missile turret can be assemble so it rotates but it's a little top heavy, so best to cement it in place during final assembly. Note the brass additions from the Eduard set, plus the cabling made from lead wire

Revell offer an extensive range of military vehicles and among the popular Panzers they offer some unique subjects from the modern era and the Bundeswehr in particular. There are some intriguing designs in operation with Germany's current ground forces and they make attractive model kit subjects.

One of Revell's more recent releases is the Wiesel 2 LeFlaSys (leichten FlugabwehrSystem; light anti-aircraft system) 'Ozelot' which is based on the extended version of the well know Wiesel 1. The newer variant has an extra road-wheel and a significantly longer hull which enables it to carry a fold-away 'turret' mounting four Stinger missiles. It really is a small vehicle but that means it's light and nimble; the Ozelot can shift itself at around forty-five miles per hour so it can be on station very rapidly.

Revell's 1:35 kit comes moulded in their mid-green polystyrene as all the company's modern military kits do. The skinny tracks are moulded in flexible black synthetic rubber and mimic the real items extremely well; there's no need to replace them and you won't find any individual link sets for this kit anyway!

Assembly is straightforward and the instructions guide the builder well. Great care must be taken when putting together the suspension and running gear; Revell have done an admirable job of replicating the delicacy of the real design here but it results in a slightly fragile set-up. The wheels' stub axles are particularly prone to breaking and due to small contact areas, precise re-alignment is difficult. Ask me how I know.

Fit of parts across the whole model is extremely impressive and no filler was needed anywhere. I used Mr Hobby's 'Mr Cement S' for construction, with Bob Smith Industries CA glue for attaching peripheral assemblies.

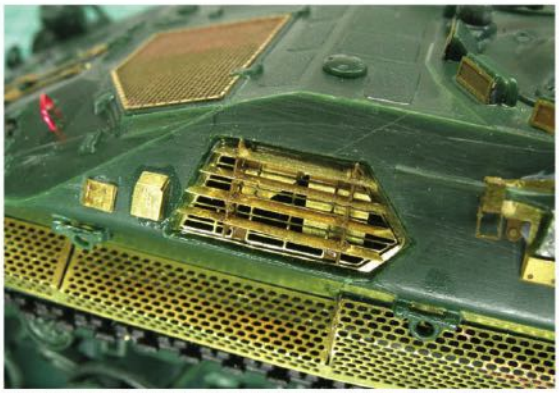
Both Revell and Eduard offer photo-etched sets for this kit and they both provide some key detail improvements. The sets are in fact basically the same, because Revell commissioned Eduard to create the metal parts for them, but Eduard's release has more parts in it. The biggest improvement (included in both sets) is the large exhaust shroud that runs the length of the lefthand side fender; the perforated metal part is a perfect miniature replica of the real thing and adds a great deal of realism to the kit.

Some other extra details were added, mostly using lead wire. There are a good number of detail photos of this vehicle on the internet that provided views of the various hydraulic pipes connected to the weapons turret and sight and it's fairly straightforward to cut and fit them to the model. Let's let the photos do the talking now! •

The shovel blade is replaced entirely, keep the handle. The track bar was made from a length of brass tube

The moulded-on non-slip texturing is well done and needs no enhancement. Note the PE caps on the smoke dischargers

One big improvement over the standard kit moulding are the periscope faces. These have a recessed centre section that can be flooded with a contrasting coloured paint for a realistic optic effect

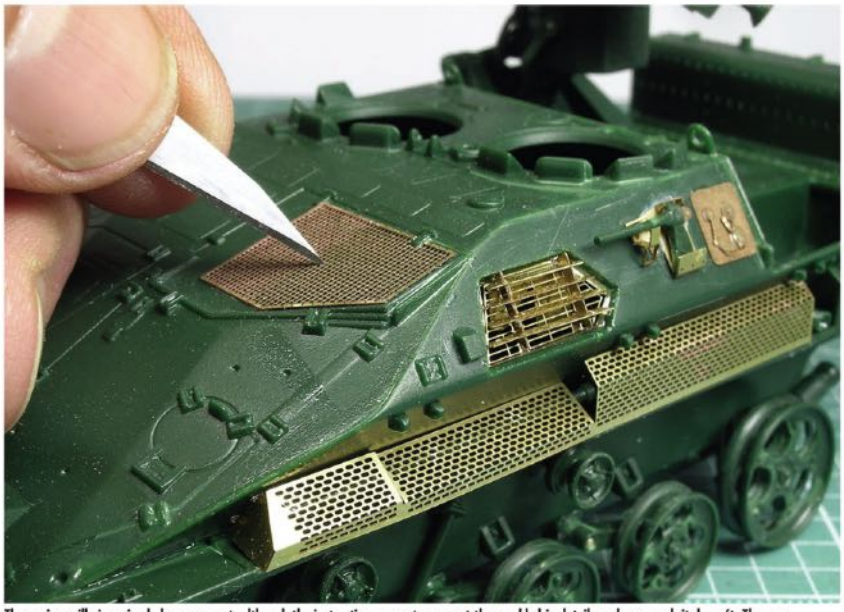


The engine cooling grille is a complex little assembly, made entirely from brass on Eduard's set. If you don't want to bother with this, the moulded detail is well done

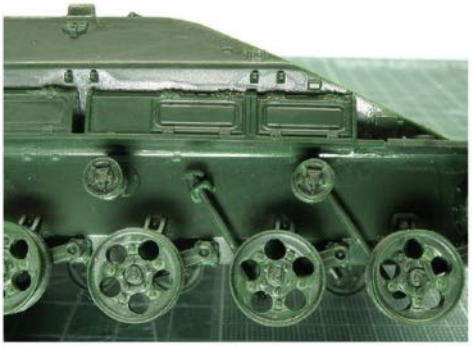
More photo-etched brass from Eduard! Note the copper wire on the inner faces of the Stinger pod

Lead wire or flux-core solder is very handy for adding cabling

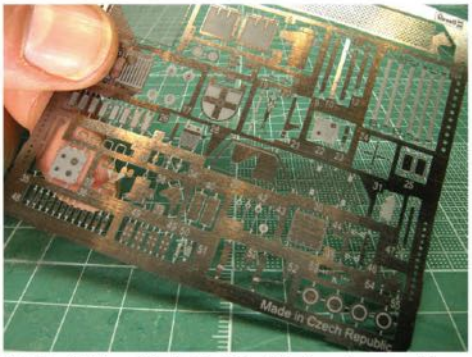
The Wiesel 2 LeFlaSys Ozelot looks a bit tail heavy but the bulk of the vehicle's weight is at the front. The view shows off the perforated exhaust shroud well



The engine grille is a simple lay-over part, although the instructions seem to suggest the moulded-in detail needs removal; it doesn't. The axe bracket can be seen in this view



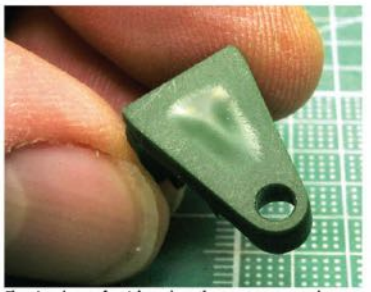
While handling the model during assembly and painting, there's a good chance you'll damage the wheels, which are tricky to re-fit



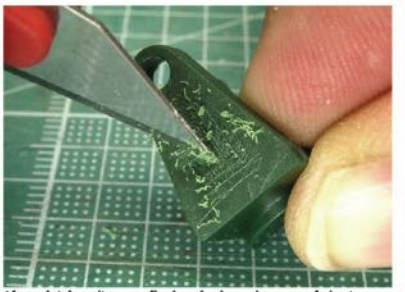
This is Revell's photo-etch for the Wiesel 2 (available for purchase separately). It's made by Eduard and so features many of the same parts, but there's a reduced amount on Revell's release

'Both Revell and Eduard offer photo-etched sets for this kit and they both provide some key detail improvements...'

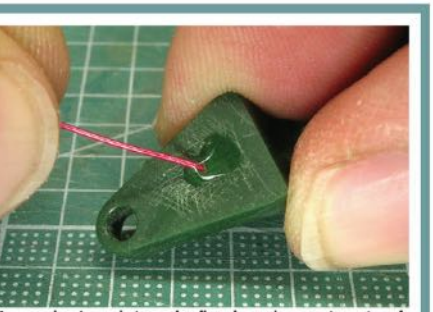
The delicate, in-scale running gear of Revell's kit can be appreciate here. The one-piece tracks are excellent and do not need replacing



There's a doozy of a sink-mark on the turret support and even though mostly hidden, it really needs filling



After a brief sanding on a flat board, the sunken area of plastic was scored with the tip of a craft knife

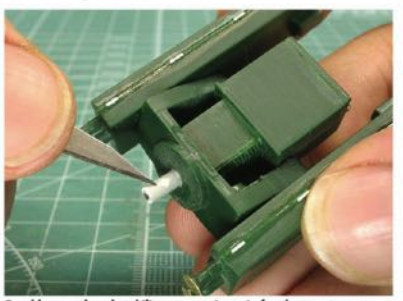


Cyanoacrylate (superglue) was then flowed onto the part using a piece of wire as an applicator

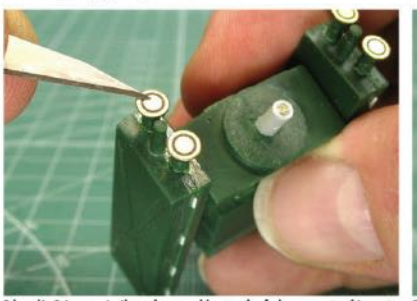
A quick blast with activator and the glue sets hard. No need for evenness here, it will be sanded flat

A sanding stick was used to flatten the raised glue. If any sunken areas remain, re-apply the glue and re-sand

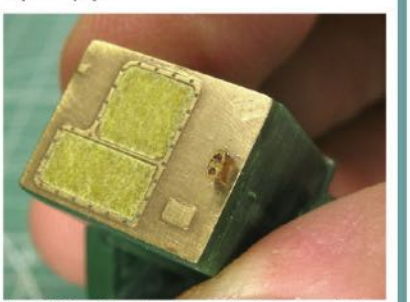
And it has gone! the outline of the defect can be see through the transparent superglue



To add strength and stability, a new pivot pin for the turret was made from styrene tubing



Eduard's Stinger missile end-caps add a touch of sharpness to this part of the kit



The whole face of the sighting box is re-faced with photo-etched metal. The optics have been masked off

Badger's Renegade Krome airbrush was used exclusively for this model. It is seen here being charged with primer

The Krome produces an extremely fine spray and the primer goes on smoothly

Vallejo's new Grey Primer is the ideal material with which to undercoat a model that has had photo-etched brass parts fitted to it

The Krome again; here it is being use to apply the base colour of Tamiya XF-67 NATO Green

The XF-67 was well thinned using Tamiya XF-20A – it's always better to use the proprietary brand of thinner for your paint

The base shade has been completed. The XF-67 NATO Green was lightened with about 5% XF-15 Flat Flesh

Again lightened with 5% XF-15 Flat Flesh, the next colour to be applied was XF-68 NATO Brown

Next up is the black, and yup, you guessed right; it was lightened in shade with 5% XF-15 Flat Flesh

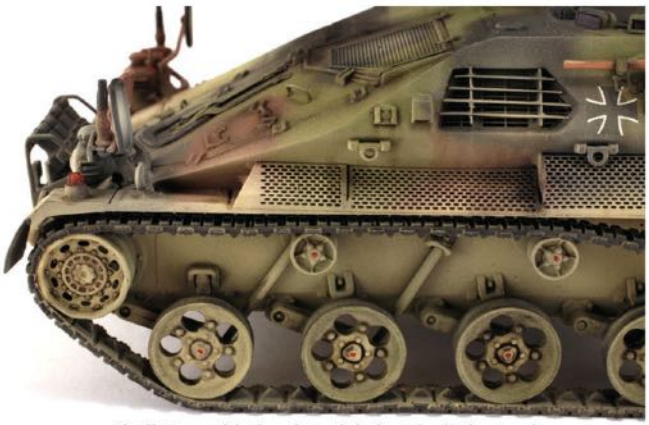
The three-tone NATO scheme is on, and even though a little stark, it does look attractive

Despite the name, Tamiya XF-78 Wooden Deck Tan has a wide variety of uses, including road-dust

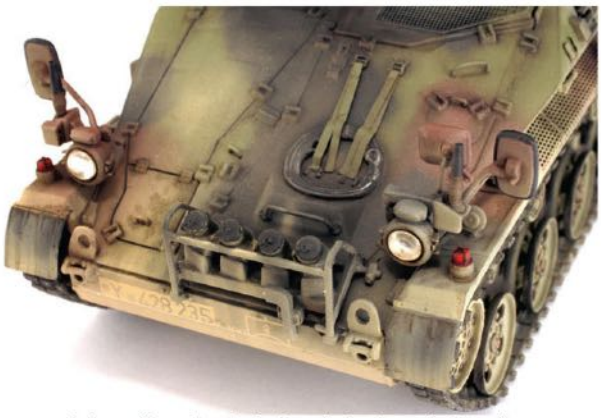
As previously stated, Badger's Krome produces a very fine atomisation and so was perfect for creating a fine coating of 'dust' using Tamiya XF-78 Wooden Deck Tan

The Wiesel's wheel hub centres have red spots. Anyone know why?

One big enhancement that can be made to the front of the model are the lights; they were replaced with clear resin 'Little Lenses'



The effectiveness of that long, photo-etched exhaust shroud is clear to see here



The front mudflaps are from the Eduard sets; the plastic kit parts for the rear flaps are actually better than the PE parts and so should be retained

MODELSPEC

Revell 1:35 Wiesel 2 LeFlaSys Ozelot Kit No.03089

Materials Used:

Adhesives; Mr Hobby Mr Cement S, Bob Smith Industries CA glue Insta Cure+, lead wire.

Paints Used:

Vallejo Acrylics Grey Primer.

Tamiya Acrylics; XF-69 NATO Green, XF-68 NATO Brown, XF-69 NATO Black, XF-78 Wooden Deck Tan.

Accessories Used:

Eduard photo-etched set 36-150 (or Revell set 00713)

References:

Internet searches offer a great deal of information. Also available is a sixty-four page book from Tankograd on the Wiesel 2, available from www.bookworldws.co.uk

Availability:

Revell kits and products are available widely from good model shops

⊕ Offbeat subject choice, great detail,

⊖ Running gear quite delicate once fitted

Rating: **8** out of 10

This precarious hand-held shot amply demonstrates just how small the little Wiesel 2 is!

'Fit of parts across the whole model is extremely impressive and no filler was needed anywhere...'

Wiesel 2 LeFlaSys Ozelot AFF

The eyes and brain of the Wiesel 2 LeFlaSys Ozelot is the 'AFF' (Aufklärungs Führungs und Feuerleitfahrzeug; Reconnaissance Command and Fire Control) which features '3D' radar to work in conjunction with the weapon vehicle. Revell also offer this in 1:35 kit-form and it makes the ideal partner to go with the Ozelot. On sale now from good model shops everywhere.

STRAIGHTENING AND ASSEMBLY

BUILDING A RESIN KIT PT.2

This regular feature for the AFV Edition of MiM will continue to describe the slightly specialised techniques to the assemble of a resin kit. Verlinden Productions' 1:35 military fork truck (2622) is our chosen 'victim'... •

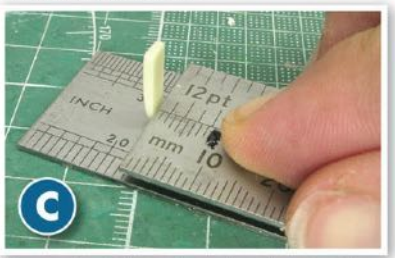
MATERIALS FOR THE JOB

We will be using cyanoacrylate glue (superglue) on this small model, but for larger kits that require greater strength (resin can be heavy) it's handy to have some two-part epoxy resin to hand. To apply the glue, simply take some lengths of wire and twist the ends to make disposable applicators.

STRAIGHTENING OUT RESIN WARPAGE

Cast resin is prone to changing shape when in the kit box, but thankfully this is easy to remedy. First, we warm the part for a few seconds with a hairdryer set to 'hot'.

Once the component goes 'floppy', place it on a straight, cool surface; a steel ruler is ideal. Use tweezers, the part can get hot.



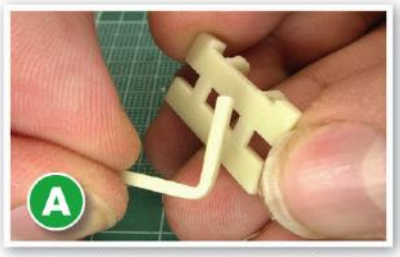
Using a second steel ruler, press down gently on the part to straighten it. The cold metal cools the resin, setting it in its new shape.

Much better! Here we can see the newly straightened fork; the process only takes a few seconds.

Some parts can not be sandwiched between metal rulers due to their shape. Here the lift-chains are being heated in hot water.

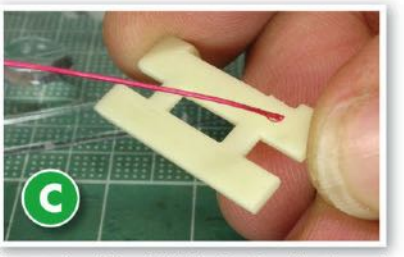
By simply holding the chains so they hang down, gravity pulls them straight while they cool off. The cooled parts are shown here.

ASSEMBLING WITH CYANOACRYLATE (CA) ADHESIVE



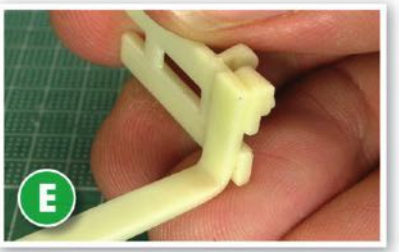
The newly straightened forks can now be cemented to their backplate. First, as always, make a 'dry' fit without any glue to see how the parts mate up.

Squeeze out a few drops of CA glue; we are using Bob Smith Industries Insta-Cure+ here. Some pieces of wire have had one end twisted into a loop, forming an applicator.



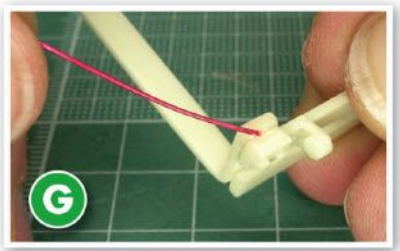
Place a tiny drop of CA on the backplate. Keep this small, so if we need to snap off the part and reposition it, we won't cause damage during removal.

Carefully offer up the parts, taking great care to achieve accurate alignment; we only get a few seconds of adjustment time!



Et voila! The fork is tacked in place with the small drop of CA cement. If you're not happy with the placement, snap it off and repeat the sequence.

A quick squirt of CA activator sets the glue almost immediately. Try not to prolong any skin-contact with this useful but pungent material.



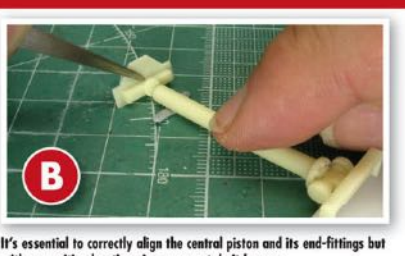
Once happy with the location of fork, you can flow more CA glue into the joint to make the bond much stronger, and to fill small join-lines.

The excess CA glue can be sanded off, but take care here as the surrounding resin is softer than the glue and will reduce at a faster rate.

The completed assembly. In reality, fork-trucks' forks are loosely mounted and so there's no need for perfect alignment; they centre themselves once loaded up.

ASSEMBLING THE MAST

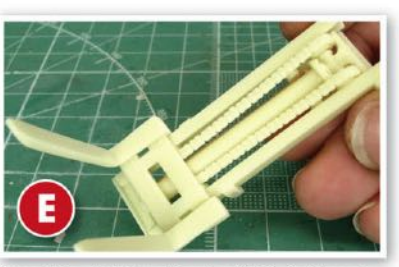
Once the parts have been cleaned up (see Part 1, MiM-AFV 002), we can begin assembling the 'heart' of the vehicle, its lifting mast.



It's essential to correctly align the central piston and its end-fittings but with no positive location pins, we must do it by eye.

Two small holes were drilled at the top and bottom of the main piston to accommodate a hydraulic line, made from fine copper wire.

The wire was pre-bent to shape and gently teased into place using tweezers.



The remaining parts of the mast have been fixed to the piston and the fork sub-assembly CA glued in place.

The completed mast unit is being offered up to the truck here. It fixes on three points; the upper pistons and a lower hinge plate.

NEXT TIME

In the next issue of MiM-AFV (No.6) it's time to prime, paint and weather our forktruck. One sale September 15th!

RIDDLE OF THE SANDS

MiM takes a look at the intriguing Iraqi Army Enigma, an up-armoured T-55 main battle tank

The T-55 Enigma was a modification made to the Russian-designed tank by Iraqi Army engineers and it made its most famous appearance during Operation Desert Storm, where it was rumoured to have withstood several strikes from Coalition anti-tank missiles.

The armour consists of very roughly welded hollow steel boxes, suspended on frames that are welded and bolted to the tank's hull. Not the whole tank is covered, just its most vulnerable parts and this asymmetry endows the vehicle with a science-fiction, almost Mad Max appearance.

A nearly 100% intact example of this fascinating and deeply cool-looking vehicle was retrieved by Coalition troops form the ODS battlefield and it now resides in all its un-restored (ie; un-ruined) glory at the Tank Museum, Bovington, for all to see. It's based on either a Polish or Czech built T-55 and was possibly part of the Iraqi Army's 14th Infantry Division, although this isn't known for certain. Even the spraycan graffiti applied by the troops remains, along with dirt and sand from when it was in service making it an irresistible modelling subject. •

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Military Illustrated Modeller Issue 5 - Aircraft Edition
on sale 18 August, 2011

HUGHES EXPERIMENTAL
Academy's 1:48 scale Hughes MD-500 prototype TOW missile defender by David W. Aungst.

FABULOUS FENCER
Trumpeter's 1:48 scale Sukhoi Su-24 Fencer by Mick Evans.

PROPS FOR PROPS
Rafe Morrissey presents some handy illustrated techniques for painting and weathering propellers.

HURRICANE PART TWO
The Editor finishes building Pacific Coast Models' 1:32 scale Hawker Hurricane Mk.I, and paints his model in a scheme from late 1940.

Military Illustrated Modeller Issue 6 - AFV Edition
on sale 15 September, 2011

INCREDIBLE HULK
Rob Ferreira describes the creation of a tattered M4 Sherman range-hulk in 1:35

WILDER AT HEART
Adam Wilder joins MiM with his amazing 1:35 T34 in full, step-by-step glory

I COULD DO WITH A 'D
Dragon's 1:35 Panzer IV ausf. D, upgunned

DIORAMAS YOU *MUST BUILD* BEFORE YOU DIE...

...another monster D-Day scene, just crying out to be built

Okay, it's not exactly armour, but this is a very well known and highly atmospheric, original colour photo, taken on the quay in front of Weymouth Pavilion in Dorset, on England's south coast (the Pavilion burnt down in 1954 and a new one was built in 1960). We see US troops in LCVPs during the preparations for D-Day – an LSI is in the foreground, manned by US Navy personnel. You'd need a huge workbench to replicate this iconic scene (perhaps it would be best executed in 1:72)
but it would be a fabulous thing to see in miniature. Another modelling pipe-dream!

See you again on September 15th

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Squadron Signal Publications is one of the best known and most extensive ranges of modelling reference books ever published, featuring high quality photographs of aircraft, tanks, ships and more in action, as well as an ever-expanding range of 'walk-around' volumes which show the subject inside and out in crystal-clear photographs - perfect for superdetailing projects.

The books have been helping modellers to add essential details, find markings and apply paint schemes to aircraft, armour and ship models for many years, and the great news is that Squadron Signal books are now easier to find than ever before, because ADH Publishing, the company that brings you Tamiya Model Magazine International each month, is importing them from the USA.

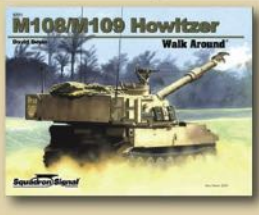
You can find Squadron Signal at good model and book shops, and you can also check www.adhbooks.com to see what we have on offer!

Please call us now for full details of prices, availability and range; UK (+44) 01525 222573

SS2048 - WWII US SHERMAN IN ACTION

The iconic American tank of World War II, the M4 Sherman was known for its simple, reliable, and flexible design. The full story of the Sherman's exploits would fill several volumes, so this book focuses on the variants and sub-variants of the Shermans used by U.S. forces during WWII. Augmenting the nearly 200 period photos, many of them in rare original color, are a host of exquisitely rendered line drawings illustrating the subtle variations in hull, turret, and weapons used on these famed armored fighting vehicles. Includes color profiles; 80 pages.

SS5721 - M108/109 SP HOWITZER



Introduced in the early 1960s, the M108/109 marked the transition from open-topped to fully enclosed self-propelled artillery. Developed simultaneously, the M108 and M109 went from experimental to 'standard' classification in July 1963. Illustrated with more than 315 photographs, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings; 88 pages.

SS5719 - M5/M5A1 STUART WALK AROUND

The light M5 Stuart tank was a much-upgraded version of the M3 Stuart. Named for Confederate General J.E.B. Stuart, the Stuarts filled the need for a light tank and, in addition to the US, they were supplied to Allied military forces. The leap from the M3 to the M5 Stuart took place in 1941, when the US Ordnance Department accepted a proposal by Cadillac to install double Cadillac V8 engines in the tank and, after remodelling the hull to accommodate the new motors, a new tank, the M5, was born. Reconnaissance units in the front lines of US forces were always accompanied by the agile M5s. With a top speed of 45 mph, armor protection, and firepower, the M5A1 provided powerful support. Though not a match for heavy German armor, the Stuart was more than adequate for dealing with infantry. In addition to the US military, M5s were supplied to Britain, the Soviet Union and France. After WWII, the Stuart saw action in such far-flung places as China, India, and Indochina. Illustrated with more than 190 photographs, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings; 80 pages.

SS2047 - TIGER I In Action

The Tiger is arguably the most feared tank of WWII. Billed as invincible by Nazi propaganda, the massive, heavily armed and armored, vehicle's mystique has continued to grow in the intervening years. Often forgotten were the 56-ton behemoth's weaknesses, among which were a feeble power-train and suspension, an unquenchable thirst for precious fuel, and perhaps most crucial, the huge drain it imposed on Germany's manufacturing and engineering resources. Illustrated with over 200 vintage photographs, plus color profiles and detailed line drawings; 72 pages.

SS5601 - USS ALABAMA ON DECK

(Re-Issue) Covers the battleship from stem to stern, focusing on deck and superstructure details, weapons & electronic systems used during WWII. Includes camouflage patterns & detailed color paintings. 40 pgs of color. 80 pgs

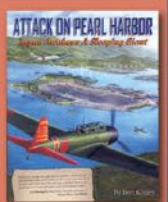
SS4034 - PT Boats in Action

American Patrol Torpedo (PT) boat crews served valiantly in every theatre during WWII. From the Aleutians to the Mediterranean, these men harassed enemy shipping, launched attacks against much more formidable warships, rescued downed air crews and spirited General Douglas MacArthur to safety from Corregidor Island in March of 1942. This volume chronicles the evaluation, use, and eventual destruction of the US PT boat fleet through 180 photographs, many of them colour. Covers ELCO, Higgins, and Huckins boats.

ALSO FROM ADH BOOKS...

Attack on Pearl Harbor by Bert Kinzey

Covering all of the major aspects of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, this book is written so that it will appeal to both the layman, seeking an understanding of what happened on the "Day of Infamy," and to the enthusiast who wishes to learn much more information than is usually found in a book of this size. Photos with detailed captions, extensive artwork, charts, tables, maps, and text combine to make this a comprehensive yet very affordable reference on one of the most important dates in World history.



ALSO FROM ADH BOOKS...

HOW TO BUILD...
TAMIYA'S 1:32 SPITFIRE Mk.IXc and Mk.VIII KITS

The complete guide to building Tamiya's amazing 1:32 Spitfire kits, written by Brett Green of HyperScale and Model Military fame, has now been updated to include the brand-new Spitfire Mk.VIII kit!
A summary of after-market decals and accessories, a Gallery of models by Marcus Nicholls, Editor of TMMI, and Chris Wauchop, hundreds of images, reference photos and how to get the very best from the model.

Shown here is a selection of some of the most popular titles, many more available

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Finnish Fusion

1/35 Finnish BT-42 Assault Gun

Item 35318

The Finnish Army was certainly not well-equipped during WWII, but ingenuity enabled them to combat the formidable Russian Army with the limited weaponry they had available. Captured Russian tanks were often pressed into service and among these was the BT-7 Model 1937. This light tank served as the base for the creation of Finland's distinctive BT-42 assault gun, which featured a 114mm howitzer housed in a massive turret. The eighteen examples produced between 1942 and 1943 were initially deployed to attack Russian fortifications and later served in the defense of Vyborg during the Russian offensive in June 1944. Tamiya proudly releases this unique Finnish AFV to join the ever-growing 1/35 Scale Military Miniature Series line-up.

Recreated With Finnish Support

The Parola Armour Museum in Finland holds the world's only surviving BT-42 and their cooperation has led to a highly accurate model. Chassis details such as the front fenders, toolboxes, etc. which differed from the earlier BT-7 Model 1935 are all reproduced.

1/35
SCALE
Length: 157mm
Turret's rear hatch can be assembled in open or closed position.
Depicts guide wheels and tracks from the BT-7 Model 1937.
Features assembly type tracks.
1 crew figure & 3 types of markings included.

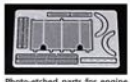

Photo-etched parts for engine cover and radiator grilles.

(Extra for First Production)
A B5-sized, full-color reference leaflet with BT-42 photos will be included.

Modeling the BT-42's Heritage

The Sturmgeschütz III Ausf.G, the BT-42's successor, as well as the BT-7 Model 1935, an earlier variant of the tank on which the BT-42 was based, are also available in Tamiya's 1/35 Scale MM Series line-up.

1/35 Scale Sturmgeschütz III Ausf.G "Finnish Army" (Item 35310)
1/35 Scale Russian Tank BT-7 Model 1935 (Item 35309)

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